NORTH WALES

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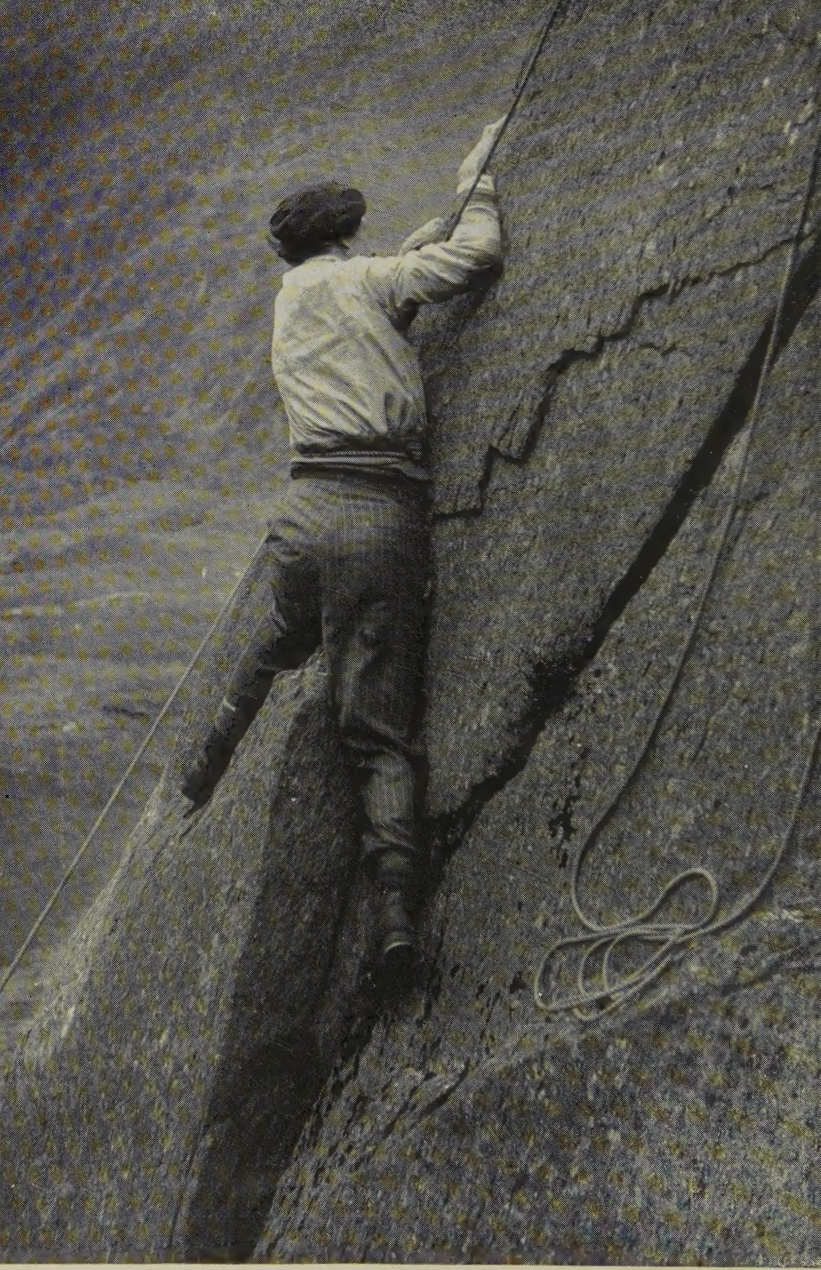

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NORTH WALES

NORTH WALES

BY ARCHIE TURNBULL M.A.

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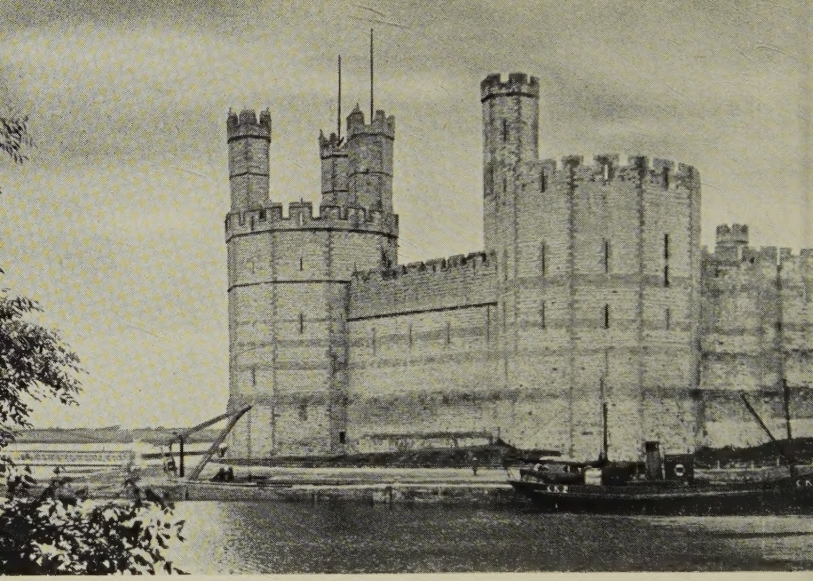

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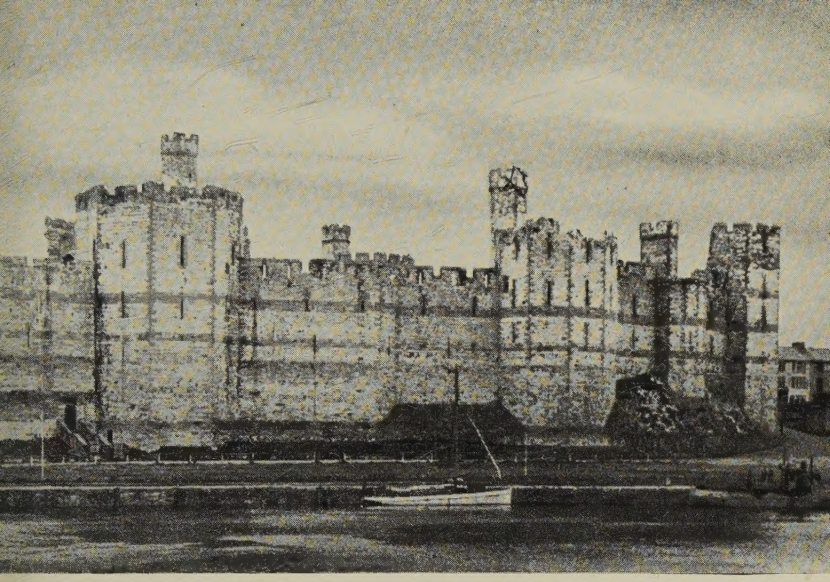

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Over Welsh Hills

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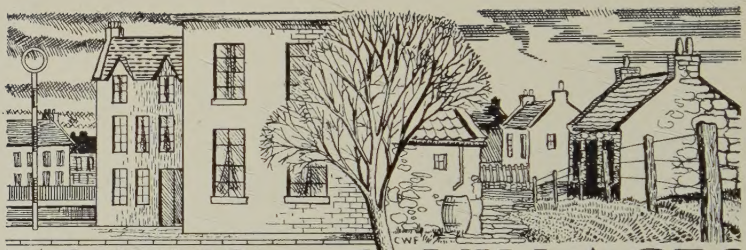


TOWNS and VILLAGES

ABBEY FARM. A farm ¼ mile S. of Rhuddlan, which incorporates in its outbuildings the ruins of an ancient Dominican abbey.

ABER. A village on the Bangor road about 2 miles SE. of Llanfairfechan, which has in its precincts a raised mound, called MWD, once the site of a castle built by Llewellyn the Great. About 2 miles upstream from the village are the Aber Falls, the larger of which is 120 feet high. A lake, Llyn-yr-Afon, or Aber Lake, can be reached either from the village, from which it is 4 miles distant, or from Llanfairfechan.

ABERDOVEY, a quiet seaside resort with beautiful sands and safe bathing, which stands on the north side of the mouth of the Dovey estuary, about 16 miles S. of Barmouth. The surrounding countryside is delightful for walking, and is full of legendary associations; Llyn-y-Barfog, for instance, means the ' lake of the bearded giant,' a figure out of Celtic mythology. The angling in the vicinity is good. The golf course of Aberdovey is perhaps the finest in Britain.

ABERERCH. This pleasant village stands on the river Erch, 2 miles E. of Pwlheli. Nearby there is a sandy beach, and an ancient church with a notable bell tower.

ABERGELE. A small town, 5 miles W. of Rhyl, and about 1 mile inland. Picturesquely situated, the town has a sixteenth-century church which contains some ancient glass, an Elizabethan chalice, and a thirteenth-century stone cross inset in the floor. The suburb of Pensarn (*q.v.*) is on the coast about 1 mile distant, and provides the nearest railway halt.

ABERDARON. A secluded village which nestles on the tip of the Lleyn peninsula, 16 miles from Pwlheli, from which a bus runs twice daily. The church has a fine Norman doorway and a Perpendicular east window.

ABERGLASLYN. This magnificent scenic pass between Beddgelert and Tremadoc is famous for its sheer cliffs rising to 800 feet above the river Glaslyn. On the cliff sides stunted pine trees cling precariously, to give the pass a Swiss appearance. The view from Pont Aberglaslyn is one of the most outstanding in Wales.

Aberglaslyn (morning).

ABERGYNOLWYN. This small inland village lies in the Dysynni valley between Towyn and Tal-y-Llyn, and is the terminus of the small-gauge railway from Towyn. From here there is an ascent of Cader Idris.

ABERSOCH. A popular little seaside village on the south coast of the Lleyn peninsula, 7 miles W. of Pwlheli. There is both fresh and salt-water fishing to be had, and sheep-dog trials are held annually in August.

"*The splendour falls on castle walls*
And snowy summits old in story;
The long light shakes across the lakes
And the wild cataract leaps in glory."

A view taken at sunset of a reach of the beautiful Llyn Ogwen.

ANGLESEY

FAR away from the noise and smoke and hurry of cities, far away from the gaily crowded resorts of the North Coast, the Island of Anglesey is a land of quiet and rest; a land of little rocky bays with sandy beaches; of restful villages, good fishing streams, fine golf courses; an ancient land full of the ancient traditions of hospitality, where a holiday slips by, bracing and yet restful, a complete contrast to the tension of urban life. The island, of course, is not devoid of the customary amusements. Beaumaris, the capital, has cinemas, pier and pavilion. But that is the exception. The normal resort in Anglesey is the little village sheltered in a cove, with the great breakers of the Irish Sea white in the distance, but never reaching far enough in to disturb the peace and calm. For those who like to make their own holiday, and not have it 'laid on,' the island has much to recommend itself. Anglesey, or Mon, as it was to the Welsh, or Mona to the Romans, is a low-lying, square-shaped area, 21 miles long and 19 miles broad, flat and treeless, with a rocky, indented coastline. There are five island towns—Amlwch, Beaumaris, Holyhead, Llangefni and Llanerchymedd. The roads, for the most part, are good, though they occasionally wind about in an abstracted sort of way. The Holyhead road, of course, is excellent. The latter town stands on Holy Island, on the west coast, and joined to Anglesey by a great causeway with a central arch, which carries the road and railway, and by another road causeway farther to the south. There are good and comfortable inns in most of the villages. The island has five golf courses.

Anglesey is cut off from Caernarvon by the Menai Strait, running from the north-east to the south-west and with a maximum width of about ¾ of a mile. The strait is spanned by two bridges, the tubular railway bridge, and the very beautiful and graceful suspension road bridge. Both bridges cross the strait near Bangor, and the stretch near the road bridge is rather a pretty spot.

Near the Anglesey end of the railway bridge is the village of **Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllandysilogogogoch,** which being translated means, 'Church of St. Mary in a hollow of white hazel near to a

The Menai Straits and Welsh Hills.

rapid whirlpool and to St. Tysilio's church near to a red cave.' All of which goes to show what a succinct language Welsh can be. But there is no more to be said about the village, except that even the Welsh call it Llanfair P. G.!

About 4 miles north of the Suspension Bridge is **Beaumaris,** the ' capital ' of Anglesey. This is a village of some size, on the coast, with a grassy foreshore. It boasts a pier, pavilion and a small swimming pool. The outstanding object of interest is the Castle, built by Edward I between 1295 and 1298. It is to the north of the town, and of the type known as a double ward structure. That is, there is an inner and an outer curtain wall, and the whole protected by a wet moat. The castle is well preserved and tended by the Ancient Monuments Commission. The inner ward, square with drum towers at the corners and at the centre of the walls, has a north and South Gateway. Containing this is the outer ward, also towered, and with mooring rings in its walls. The main entrance to the castle is on the south.

The parish church of Beaumaris—the place was so called by Edward I—is partly of fourteenth-century work, with a chancel dating from 1500. There are some fine ancient stalls, and the church contains a sarcophagus of Princess Joan, daughter of King John. At 32 Castle Street there is a house whose hall and south wing date from 1400. The hall is especially interesting, with its grand old timbered roof, smoke-blackened from an open hearth. Another very fine building is the Court House, dating from 1614.

North some 4 miles from Beaumaris, and nearly on the north-east point of the island, is **Penmon.** Outstanding interest here is centred on the Priory. Penmon is the site of one of the earliest churches in Anglesey, a building founded by St. Seiriol in the sixth century, but destroyed by the Norse invasions in the tenth. However, the place retained its religious associations, and to-day one can see the nave and south transept of the Norman church which was built after the destruction of Seiriol's primitive structure. An Augustinian Priory was founded here in 1414. Just to the NE. of Penmon there is a wishing well. Facing Penmon, and off the point of Anglesey, lies **Puffin Island,** so called from the great number of those sea birds which dwell on it. It is also called Priestholm, however, a name derived from the fact that it was used as a hermitage by the folk of Penmon. The name, too, shows the influence of Scandinavian invasion and settlement. There are many Scandinavian names to be found in Anglesey.

Around the north coast of the island are many pleasant bays, some large, some small, all with small villages catering for the holidaymaker. The largest is **Red Wharf Bay,** about 4 miles west of the tip of the island and the entrance to the straits. This is a great sandy stretch, high and dry at low tide. To the west is Benllech sand, a good spot, with a golf links nearby.

Bull Bay, farther to the north-west, is near the village of Amlwch, one of the larger places in Anglesey. The village is on an inlet to the east of Bull Bay, looking out to the Irish Sea, where all the great Trans-Atlantic liners pass on their way from Liverpool. The climate here is very refreshing. Bull Bay itself is a pretty place, with safe bathing. The hotel has a private rock pool for its residents.

Farther west still is Cemaes Bay, with a small village of that name. The bay has two fine arms encircling it, and at Llanbadrig on the east arm there is an ancient promontory fort.

The **Holy Island** is an interesting place to visit. Holyhead itself has not very much to recommend it, apart from the Harbour, from which the Irish boats sail. But the harbour itself is a really fine affair, with a breakwater a mile and a half long. To the east there is a promenade.

Holyhead Mountain, to the west of the town, is more imposing than its 700 feet would lead one to think. From the summit there is a grand view over all Anglesey and the Irish Sea, and even to the distant peaks of Snowdonia. On the summit there is **Caer-y-Twr,** a hill fort enclosing 17 acres. There is little to be seen except a single rampart wall, with the original entrance in the north-east corner. There are visible the traces of agricultural terraces. The lack of dwellings, however, is made up for by Ty Mawr, on the south-west slope

of the mountain. This is an extensive prehistoric village, with the ruins of some twenty huts still standing. The huts are circular, made of stone. There used to be many more, but time, weather and man have destroyed them. At Holyhead, too, is **Caer Gybi,** a Roman fort constructed late in the era of Roman Occupation. The main Roman centre in N. Wales was at Segontium, now Caernarvon, but this additional fortress was built in the last century of their stay, and connected with Segontium by road. The name Gybi, however, has nothing to do with Rome, but with St. Cybi, an early Saint, who built a church on the site in the sixth century. He was probably a contemporary of St. Seiriol of Penmon. The church was destroyed during the Scandinavian invasions of the ninth and tenth centuries. Although of this church nothing really remains, the Parish Church of Holyhead is a notable building in the Perpendicular style, and worth a visit.

About 2 miles S. of Holyhead is **Trearddur Bay,** a popular little resort on a rugged piece of coastline, much indented by the sea. There are actually two golf courses in the vicinity, as well as facilities for boating and bathing, tennis and fishing. Farther south still, Rhoscolyn is worthy of notice for its pleasant bay and fine stretch of sand.

On the south coast of Anglesey itself there are several little villages catering for tourists. The most popular is **Rhosneigr,** near Llyn Maelog. There are good patches of sand nearby, and the bathing is safe, though at high tide the village almost turns into an island. There is a golf course nearby.

An Anglesey Homestead.

ANGLESEY

ISLE OF INVASION

Though the land is generally flat, with Holyhead Mountain as the highest point, it was not always so. Indeed, Anglesey as it is to-day is the ruin of part of the oldest mountain structure in Britain; but age and ice and the sea flattened and decayed the Devonian mountains and indented them. Then the ice filled up the valley with boulder clay and made the whole into the flat plateau we see. Almost, but not quite; for this plateau supported plentiful oak woods, and the interior of the island used to be dense forest, all long since destroyed by man. For man came to Anglesey in ages lost before history began. Came from Brittany and Spain in the Neolithic or New Stone Age, and settled mostly in the south-east corner near the straits, building his hill-top forts and hut circles, and burying his dead in the great chambered tombs, of which twenty still stand, though mainly in the form of Cromlechs—the inner supporting chamber which was buried under a great mound of earth. Bronze Age followed stone, and Iron followed bronze; and in the oakwoods the Druids carried out their sacrificial rites.

Then came the Romans, across the strait from Segontium; and for three centuries Anglesey was intermittently under their influence. They probably worked the copper mines for which the island used to be famous. But they left little mark on the island, except for the fort at Caer Gybi, and when they left darkness again closes down on history. The great name of Arthur, however, is echoed in the island. In the grounds of Baron Hill, near Beaumaris, is Bwrdd Arthur—

the Round Table—and in Llaniesty church, 3 miles north, there is a tomb supposed to be that of one of Arthur's knights.

But where the Romans left off their civilising mission, the early Christians, as we have seen, took over. St. Cybi and St. Seirion founded their religious houses at Holyhead and Penmon in the sixth century, where they stood till they were destroyed towards the end of the tenth. During this period the inhabitants of the island increased, and likewise the cultivation; the oak woods were pushed back, and Anglesey became such a good grain-producing country that it earned the name of 'Mother of Wales,' from the fact that enough was grown there to feed the whole population. Meanwhile temporal princes fought for power, and the main court was established at Aberffraw. But again no trace of the Royal Palace remains.

Because Anglesey juts out into the Irish Sea, it attracted all those who sailed in search of plunder and new lands. During the ninth and tenth centuries the Vikings repeatedly made assaults on the island, destroyed the churches, and settled many folk on the soil, as we can tell by all the Scandinavian place names.

And so invasion followed invasion: Roman, Scandinavian, Norman and English. The great turning point in the history of the island was the building of Beaumaris Castle by Edward I. The English sent some 1500 workers across to do the job—a very considerable influx in those days, and from that event we can say that the modern history of Anglesey begins. The great Castle—not as strong, of course, as Caernarvon or Conway—dominated the island, and Beaumaris became the chief port, while Newborough, the other English town to the south, became the market town.

The Castle was besieged, of course. Indeed, in the fourteenth century Anglesey was a hotbed of Welsh nationalism, and in 1403 the army of Glyndwr unsuccessfully attacked Beaumaris.

And then, we may say, the history ends, for peace and prosperity took over from war and bloodshed. The Wars of the Roses and the Civil Wars had little effect on the island economy, and the history of the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries is one of peaceful development, of big, tasteful country houses and fine churches. And so to-day one can follow the course of history backwards, in stone.

ARTHOG. A village near the south end of the Barmouth Bridge on the Mawddach estuary, Arthog is famed for its picturesque setting between the sea and the great ridge of Cader Idris. The view up the estuary towards Dolgelley is one of the finest in Europe.

BALA. A village at the north end of Bala Lake, on the road from Llangollen to Ffestiniog.

Menai Suspension Bridge.

BANGOR

SITUATED at the north end of the Menai Straits, facing Conway Bay, Bangor is a busy and rather crowded little town, the centre of educational and cultural interests in N. Wales, and an important road and rail junction. The old town, called Lower Bangor, lies in a valley, while the University and residential district of Upper Bangor is on the crest of a rise overlooking the straits, with a grandstand view into Snowdonia.

Bangor is one of the most ancient towns in Wales. Said to date from 525 A.D., when Deiniol built a monastery there, its name ' Ban-chor ' means the ' High-choir.' As a holiday resort it is not perhaps as popular as the more easterly towns, for there is little good beach, and bathing can be dangerous. But there is a good 18-hole golf course, as well as facilities for tennis, boating, and trout-fishing on Llyn Ogwen or Llyn Idwal. Steamers to Llandudno or to Liverpool make the

town more accessible than some, while it, in turn, makes an excellent kicking-off point for Snowdonia or Anglesey.

The Cathedral, in Lower Bangor, is not among the architectural masterpieces. It is low lying and has a squat appearance. Yet it is a handsome enough Gothic, cruciform building, with good examples of Perpendicular and Decorated windows in the nave. The original church of Deiniol has, of course, vanished without trace. Later buildings on the same site were destroyed in 1071 and in 1404. In 1532 the church was again rebuilt, and this building was restored by Sir Gilbert Scott in 1869. Yet traces of the early Norman church still survive. The University College of North Wales is the most imposing building in Upper Bangor; it dominates the old town from its spacious position on the hill. Near the University is the N. Wales Heroes Gateway, a noble memorial Archway, with the Roll of the Dead inscribed in the tower room above the arch.

BARDSEY ISLAND. Called the Isle of 20,000 Saints, Bardsey lies off the tip of the Lleyn peninsula, from which it is separated by the dangerous Bardsey Sound. The island is about 2 miles long by ¾ mile broad. It contains the ruins of St. Mary's Abbey, which was founded in the sixth century. Hither fled the monks of Bangor Iscoed when they were threatened by a Northumbrian invasion, to make up the 20,000 saints who are supposed to have died on the island. As a result, Bardsey was for long a place of sacred pilgrimage.

Interior, Llewellyn's Cottage, Beddgellert.

BARMOUTH

THIS popular seaside resort on Cardigan Bay, on the north side of the estuary of the Mawddach, is famed for its healthy climate and its magnificent surroundings. The town offers opportunities for golf, tennis, boating and bathing; there are good sands, and for the hiker or climber unrivalled mountain country all around. The view beyond Barmouth Bridge up the Mawddach estuary has been called the noblest in Europe. The towering heights of Cader and the Arans, the successive promontories jutting into the estuary, the tree-covered slopes and the sense of unlimited space creates a panorama of great majesty. Barmouth is a well-planned holiday town with good hotels and a mile-long promenade. In the vicinity are such interesting places as Harlech Castle, Panorama Walk, and Llanaber Church.

BEDDGELERT. This beautiful village, 7 miles N. of Portmadoc, stands at the junction of three Snowdonian valleys, and straddles the river Colwyn. There are several good hotels, making the village both a delightful spot for a restful holiday in the heart of the great hills and near the famous Aberglaslyn Pass, and also a good climbing centre for Snowdon or Moel Hebog.

The name (*pron.* Beth-gelert) is supposed to mean the ' grave of Gelert,' the faithful hound of Llewellyn, which was slain by the Prince after it had saved his infant son from a marauding wolf. Actually, the tale is untrue and was invented by an enterprising hotel-keeper of the village. Nevertheless, Gelert's Grave, near the village, is worth a visit if only because it is an excellent viewpoint. The name really means ' grave of Kelert,' an early saint. *See* SNOWDONIA.

BETHESDA. This busy slate-quarrying town at the foot of the Nant Ffrancon Pass, on the Bangor-Capel Curig road, is dominated by the huge quarries, among the world's largest, cut in the hillside opposite. These give the town a rather grim appearance. Bethesda makes an excellent mountaineering centre, convenient for an ascent of the Carnedds, or for the Llyn Ogwen or Snowdon group (Snowdonia).

BETTWS GARMON. A small village on the Caernarvon-Beddgelert road, about 6 miles from Caernarvon. It has a picturesque bridge.

The Fairy Glen, Bettws-y-Coed

BETTWS-Y-COED

THE 'Chapel-in-the-Wood,' among the most beautiful places in Wales, stands on the juncton of the river Llugwy with the larger Conway, about 16 miles from Conway town, and 24 miles from Caernarvon. Its wooded, hilly environs and the picturesque blend of tree, rock and stream, as well as the excellent trout and salmon fishing, have made the village perhaps too popular with the tourist.

The Old Church, among the most ancient in Wales, has a fine effigy in armour of Gryffyd Ap David Goch, grandson of Prince David, brother of the last Llewellyn. A mile north of the village, on the Llugwy, is the wooden Miner's Bridge, a famous beauty spot, while 2½ miles from Bettws in the same direction are the Swallow Falls, a wide-spraying torrent of rushing water, cascading over jutting rocks. A little to the south of the village is the Fairy Glen, a rocky glade, overhung with woods, with a lovely still pool below. Farther south still, the torrent of the Conway Falls hurtles down in a narrow channel, amid very beautiful surroundings.

BLAENAU-FFESTINIOG. A slate-quarrying town and railway junction 3 miles N. of Ffestiniog. The quarries overlook the town. Blaenau has a very fine climate and is set amid grand hill scenery. It makes a good climbing or angling centre.

BODELWYDDAN. A village 6 miles S. of Rhyl, noted for its 'marble church,' with 200-foot spire, erected in the mid-nineteenth century at a cost of £60,000.

BODFARI. An old village on the river Clwyd, 4 miles from Denbigh.

BORTH-Y-GEST. A seaside village about ½ mile S. of Portmadoc, noted for its long stretch of sand and dune, good bathing and boating, and both fresh- and salt-water fishing. A golf course is within easy reach.

CAER DREWIN. A fine example of an old British fort, on the bank of the Dee, about 1 mile from Corwen. The camp is sited on a bare hilltop, is about ½ mile in circumference, and has a rampart some 4 yards thick. On this site Prince Owen Gwynnedd pitched camp against Henry II in 1165.

CAERHUN. On the west bank of the Conway about 4 miles S. of the town, Caerhun marks the site of the old Roman station of Conovium. Traces of the camp, including the remains of a Roman bath, have been found, and some vestiges of the Roman road along the Conway are visible. Caerhun has an old church, and the churchyard has some very noble yew trees.

Overleaf: Beaumaris Castle.

Swallow Falls, Bettws-y-Coed

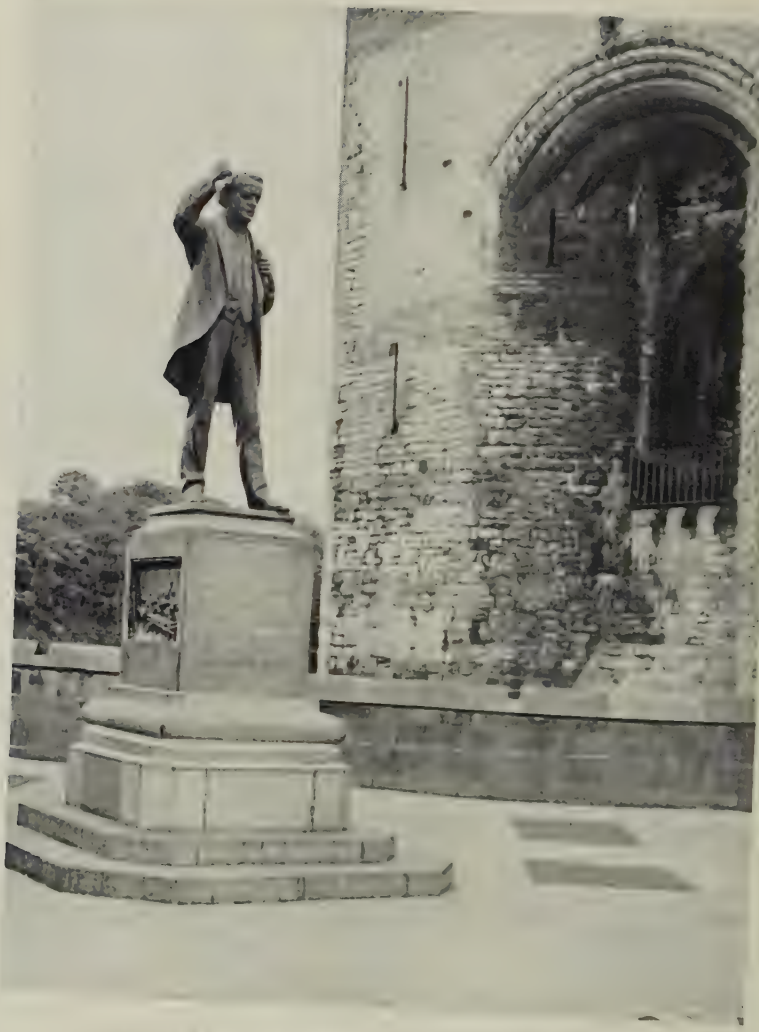
Cascade Falls, Ramsey Creek

Mirvi's Bridge, Bettws-y-Coed.

CAERNARVON

PICTURESQUELY situated on the south end of the Menai Straits, about 9 miles from Bangor, and on the mouth of the river Seiont, Caernarvon is famed for its great castle, rivalled only by that of Alnwick in Northumberland. As a means to retaining their dominance in Wales, the English created a series of Royal boroughs, fortified with castles, as bastions of English overlordship. In N. Wales the castled boroughs were, principally, Conway and Caernarvon, Criccieth, Harlech, and Beaumaris in Anglesey. The Castles of Conway and Caernarvon were built in 1284, with later additions. Caernarvon, 'Caer-ar-Fon,' or 'Fortress facing Anglesey,' is

Overleaf: Caernarvon Castle.



Statue of Earl Lloyd George at Caernarvon Castle Gateway.

an ancient place, for here stood the old British fort of Cear Seiont, and later the Roman Camp of Segontium. In the days of the Welsh resistance it became the outpost of the Welsh stronghold of Eryri or Snowdonia. For the visitor the town offers a 9-hole golf course, as well as trout and salmon fishing on the Seiont, Gwyrfai, and in the nearby lakes.

The Castle, a vast irregular structure, surrounded on three sides by water, and shaped rather like a figure eight, has massive polygonal towers, with pinnacles on top. The earliest part, comprising the Eagle, Queen's and Chamberlain tower, was built between 1284-1291. In 1294, in the rising of the Welsh under Prince Madoc Ap Llewellyn, the Castle was besieged and captured, the town put to fire and sword. The rising was quelled the following year, however, and building continued till 1301, by which time the area between the Black, Cistern and N.E. towers was completed, at a cost of £4300. Finally, between 1315 and 1322 the Granary and Well towers and the Kings Gate were added, thus completing the great circuit.

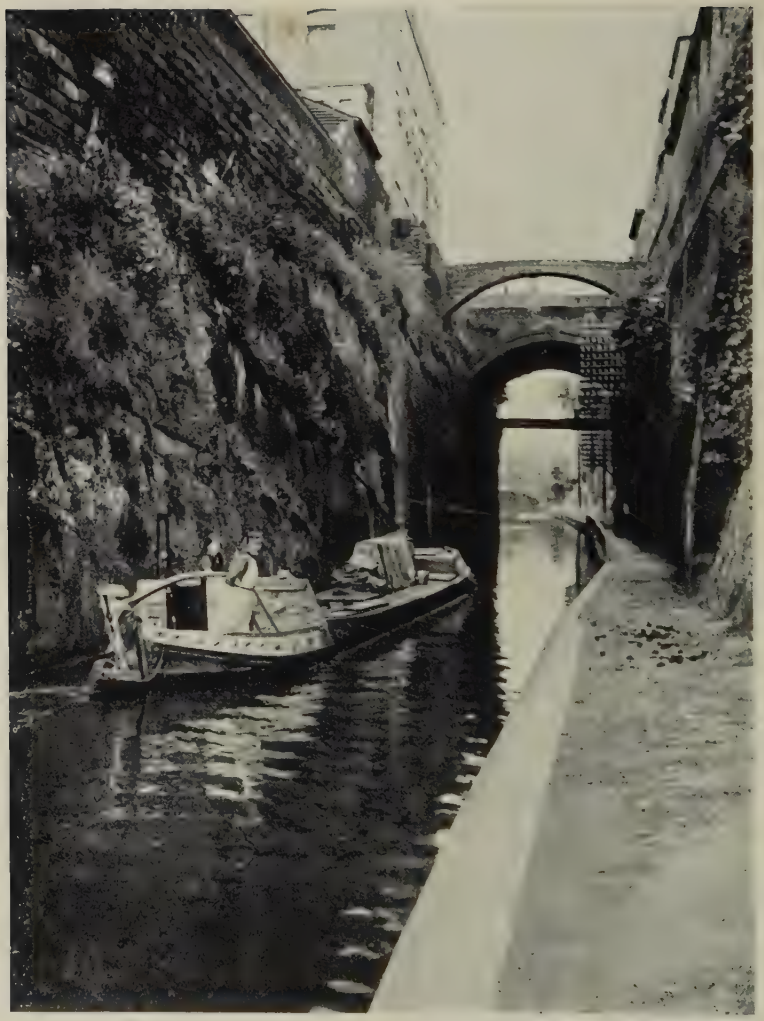
The biggest siege of Caernarvon was made by the famous Owen Glyndwr in 1401, 1403 and 1404, with French assistance. But, although the garrison was at times only 100 strong, the castle did not fall. During the Civil War it changed hands many times. Since then it has lain empty, except when, in 1914, it saw the great investiture of Prince Edward (later Edward VIII) as Prince of Wales. The town of Caernarvon is also famed for its fine walls. Although they are not quite entire, and do not permit a promenade round the town, they are in excellent repair and impressively massive. Of great interest, too, is a fragment of the wall of Roman Segontium, which can be seen on the Beddgelert road beyond the Post Office. On Twt Hill, overlooking the town, stands the huge and ugly Pavilion in which is held the annual Eisteddfod.

CAERWYS. A village about 1 mile north of the Mold-Denbigh road, about 5½ miles from Denbigh. Once a place of some importance, which it acquired right back in the days of the Roman occupation, it is now a quiet backwater. The church has an interesting square tower.

CAPEL CURIG. A popular tourist centre 5¼ miles W. of Bettws-y-Coed, where the road branches north to Bangor and south to Beddgelert. There is excellent fishing to be had in the river Llugwy, and in Llyn Mymbyr, while the village makes a fine centre for hikers and climbers. Moel Siabod lies immediately to the south, while the Glyders and Tryfan are within easy reach. The junction at Pen-y-Gwryd is 4 miles to the west, making the Snowdon Horseshoe a practicable day's ridge walking. Capel Curig has half a dozen good hotels.

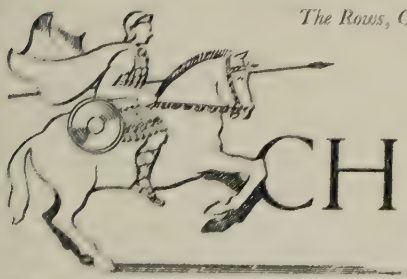
CASTELL CIDWM. The 'Wolf's Castle' on the north end of Llyn Cwellyn, on the Caernarvon–Beddgelert road, is an early British fort, once held by a robber chief who is supposed to have murdered a brother of the Roman Emperor Constantine in the vicinity.

CASTELL DINAS BRAN. *See* LLANGOLLEN.



Canal scene in Chester.

The Rows, Chester.



CHESTER

ONE of the oldest of English cities, founded by the Romans in A.D. 61, Chester is the gateway to North Wales.

The Roman Castra was destroyed in 607 by a Northumbrian king, and a later Chester by the Danes in 894. Rebuilt in 909, the town has preserved down the ages the square shape of the Roman camp. Even to-day, the plan of the Walls of the old town, with the streets running from the compass points to meet at the Cross, still the centre of the city, reveals the Roman origin. The remains of a Roman bath and hypocaust or heating system are to be seen below ground level at No. 39 Bridge Street.

The Walls of Chester are the finest and best preserved of any city in England. Rising in height from 12 to 40 feet, and with numerous gates, the walls afford a magnificent promenade of the city. Noteworthy is the Phoenix or King Charles's Tower, on the NE. corner, from which, as the inscription says, Charles I watched the defeat of his army at nearby Rowton Moor. The actual site of the battle is in the vicinity of the main railway station. Also on the north wall is an old tower called Morgans' Mount, with good views towards the distant Welsh mountains. In the NW. corner stands the Water Tower, right up to which the Dee used to flow. Rings in the tower walls show where boats were once moored.

Chester is famous for the Rows, the curious arcades at first-floor level which provide a covered-in walk through the four main streets. The second floor of the houses has been set back, the roofs of the cellars make a flooring, and the jutting out half-timbered upper storeys provide a roof.

Chester Cathedral in St. Werburgh Street, first built by Hugh, Earl of Chester, in 1093, for Benedictine monks, and extensively reconstructed in the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and finally restored by Sir Gilbert Scott in the nineteenth, is a beautiful red sandstone building, famed for its magnificent choir, with stalls dating from 1390, its cloisters, and its few remaining traces of Norman architecture, in the North Transept, and in the Great Cellar. An interesting collection of Norman relics is to be seen at the aisle of the North Choir. Also of interest are the Jacobean table and fittings in the Consistory Court.

From this, the Phoenix Tower on the walls of Chester, Charles I. watched the disastrous battle of Rowton Moor, which resulted in a crushing defeat for the royal troops, and the final extinction of hopes of victory for his cause.

CHIRK. A village at the entrance to the vale of Ceiriog, 6 miles E. of Llangollen, where Prince Owen Gwynned defeated the army of Henry II. Chirk is famed for its noble castle, said to have been first built in 1013. The castle, which has towers at its four corners, has an arresting gateway. It is not open to the public.

Chester Cathedral.

This building, although extensively reconstructed in the middle ages and restored in the 19th century, still retains ancient cloisters and a magnificent choir.

CILCAIN. This village lies to the NW. of Moel Fammau, the 1820-feet mountain west of Mold. The church has an oak roof which is traditionally supposed to have come from Basingwerk Abbey.

CLYNNOG, a village on Caernarvon Bay, 10 miles equidistant from Caernarvon and Pwllheli. Clynnog has an attractive situation and is popular as a quiet little resort. Of outstanding interest is the church, cruciform and late Perpendicular, dating from the time of Henry VII. The roof is of carved timber. In the sacristy is St. Beuno's Chest, a massive box carved out of a single piece of oak. Near the church, and connected with it by a passage, is the ancient chapel of St. Beuno, part of a former monastery dating from the sixth century. Not far away St. Beuno's Well may be used either for wishing or cursing !

The pier and pavilion.

COLWYN BAY

FROM Penmaen Head in the east a great, sandy bay sweeps round 3 miles to the little Orme—miles of sun and sand and blue sea, of boating and bathing and laziness. Along the coast three towns, Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay, and Rhos-on-Sea, merge into the magnificent resort of the Borough of Colwyn Bay, justifiably one of Britain's most popular holiday places. Two piers, 3 miles of promenade, three golf courses, half a dozen cinemas, good shops, perfect sands, tennis courts, bowling greens, a cricket ground, swimming pool, model yacht pond and boating pond—these are some of the amenities that make Colwyn Bay the ideal spot for everybody's holiday. And yet they do no more than add to the natural attractions of the borough, for Colwyn has all the delights of the seaside with the restfulness of hill and stream and the majesty of the finest mountain background south of the Scottish border; has, in

addition, a remarkable climate, sunny and dry in summer and so mild in winter that it rivals Torquay as a health resort.

For the children, there is the long sweep of sand, and the safe bathing, the model yacht pond in Eirias Park, and many other attractions. For the golfer, the 18-hole Colwyn Bay club, 530 feet above sea level, invites not only a grand trial of skill but offers a panorama of mountain and sea that is hard to beat. Or the club at Rhos-on-Sea, laid out in the old bed of the Conway river, provides its own contrast, with its smooth, velvety turf and flat but difficult fairways. For those who find a full round perhaps too strenuous, the Old Colwyn Club has nine holes of sporting golf, while the miniature course in Eirias Park can fill in a pleasant hour.

The holidaymakers who like a lazy holiday will find much to entertain them here. They can watch the tennis, or attend the galas and exhibitions in the swimming pool, laze on the beach, or in the Dingle, a delightful little tree-shaded valley to the east of the Prom. while the amusement centre of the town, Eirias Park, offers countless attractions. Perhaps finer than these are the 50-acre Pwllcrochan Woods to the south of the town, a public park full of sun and shade.

The angler can have his fill, either near at hand with the coarse fishing off the piers, or for salmon and trout in the rivers Clwyd and Elwy, within easy reach, or, farther off, on the Llugwy and Lledr near Bettws-y-Coed. For the walker there is the delightful surrounding country, or the great hills of Snowdonia, towering up in a magnificent background.

The country around is full of historical associations. At Rhos-on-Sea are the remains of the old monastery of Rhos Fynach, founded in the twelfth century. To the west of the Pier can be seen the relic of a Fishing Weir, said to have been built 700 years ago by the Cistercian monks of Conway, who prayed in the little chapel of St. Trillo, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile west of the Pier, for a heavy catch.

The Parish church, called Llandrillo church, offers a fine example of the Perpendicular style, though the tower is of even older Early English architecture.

To the east of the Bay, at Llysfaen, there is a charming sixteenth-century manor house. To the west, Euryn Hill contains the ruins of the court of Ednyfed, one of the most famous of Welsh princes. At Penmaenrhos, somewhat to the south, history tells us that King Richard II was betrayed to Bolingbroke. While, to go even farther back in history, the district has traces of ancient Roman roads, and, in its place names, such as Mochdre, suggestions of an even older civilisation, that of the Druids with their sacrificial rites.

Old Colwyn, a quieter place than its neighbours, is very well sited on a gentle slope, appealing to those who delight in a restful holiday. Among its attractions is the Fairy Glen, a picturesque spot beyond the village.

Overleaf: Conway Castle and Suspension Bridge.

North Wales Golf Courses

Place	*Holes*	*Day*	*Week*
Bangor	18	3/6	20/-
Aberdovey	18	7/6	25/-
Criccieth	18	4/-	21/-
Llandudno G. C.	18	5/-	20/-
N. Wales G.C., Llandudno	18	5/-	20/-
Nevin	18	5/-	20/-
Portmadoc	18	5/-	25/-
Prestatyn	18	5/-	15/-
Pwlhelli	18	5/-	20/-
Rhos-on-Sea	18	—	—
Rhuddlan	18	5/-	15/-
Rhyl	18	5/-	12/6
Towyn	18	3/-	12/6

There are also 9-hole courses at Abersoch, Beaumaris, Caernarvon, Denbigh, Dyffryn, Fairbourne, Llanfairfechan, Penmaenmawr, Prestatyn (St. Melyd), and Wrexham.

The Bathing Pool, Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn.

CONWAY

THE town lies on the west bank of the river Conway, about 1 mile up from the sea. The name is derived from the Welsh ' cyn-wy ' meaning ' principal river,' and it is to the Conway as a military obstacle in the path of invading armies that the town owes its importance in history.

Conway is approached from the north either by the century-old suspension bridge, or by the tubular railway bridge of Stephenson. The road bridge and the castle, perched above ' Conway's foaming flood,' seem almost one building, and there is no doubt that this is the best way to approach. To the NW. the low ground of Conway Morfa contains an

Conway: The smallest house in Great Britain.

Aberconway—the oldest house in Wales.

18-hole golf course, and makes a convenient spot for bathing. The town is a walled fortress, shaped rather like a Welsh harp, with the Castle at the apex. This castle, of oblong shape, with walls 15 feet thick, and eight massive circular towers, not all standing, was built in 1284 by Edward I, on the site of an earlier fortress dating back to the time of the Conqueror. The castle has two courtyards. The Great Hall, now roofless, has a chapel at the East End, with a well-designed window. In the Queen's Tower there is a beautiful thirteenth-century Oratory, while tradition has it that the head of Llewellyn the Great, who was slain in 1282, was brought to Edward I in the Banqueting Hall.

In the High Street of Conway is Plas Mawr, the 'big house,' an Elizabethan mansion, now the headquarters of the Royal Cambrian Academy of Art. Of interest also is St. Mary's Church, once part of a Cistercian Abbey built in 1184. It contains a beautiful thirteenth-century Rood-Screen. In the vestry can be seen some lace over 400 years old. The Walls of Conway, in places 13 feet thick, have been made into a walk and it is possible to make an almost complete circuit of the old town by this route. Conway has good facilities for yachting, fishing, and mountain walking.

Conway Castle from the air.

COP YR LENI. A village about 6 miles N. of Machynlleth, and on the 'toy' railway to Aberllefenni. Although dependent upon the nearby slate quarries, Corris is set in unspoiled scenery, and abounds in pleasant walks. The toy railway up the Vale provides a most charming trip. The carriages have seats set sideways so that travellers have a clear view of the ever-changing landscape.

CORS Y GEDOL. A famous mansion near Pensarn, on the North Coast.

CORWEN. On the south bank of the Dee near its junction with the Alwen, and about 10 miles from Llangollen, Corwen is a market town and rail junction. The surrounding country, near the Berwin mountains, is full of scenic attractions. There is good angling in the neighbourhood. The Parish Church has an interesting tradition. Originally built in the sixth century,

it stood on an unsuitable site. By day the builders set about constructing it on a better position, but every night supernatural agency destroyed their work. At length the same agency guided the builders to the site of the present church, where a huge stone stood.

Here they built the church, and the stone was made into the porch, as can be seen to-day. The church has a Norman font, *c.* 1100. On the top of the Priest's Door there is visible a rough carved cross. This is said to have been made by the dagger of Owen Glyndwr, who hurled it in anger from the top of the nearby Pen Pigin. From this eminence a good view is obtained of the vale of Corwen. *See* CAER DREWIN.

CRICCIETH, a small but popular holiday resort on the south coast of the Lleyn peninsula midway between Portmadoc and Pwllheli. Criccieth faces due south and is a natural sun trap. Although the beach is stony in places, the bathing is good, and there is also a golf course to the rear of the town, which increases its attraction. In the centre of the front there stands a huge rock with the

Conway Harbour.

ruins of Criccieth Castle on top. The castle is of early but uncertain date. Something of two massive towers, the work, most probably, of Edward I, remain. At Criccieth is Bryn Awdon, a house owned by the late Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor.

Criccieth has the advantage of being situated in delightful upland country, as well as by the seashore.

CYMMER ABBEY. The remains of an abbey (*pron.* Kimmer), founded about 1200, which stand on the east bank of the Mawddach, about 1 mile from Dolgelley, and facing the village of Llanelltyd. Part of the Abbey church, including the west tower, nave, and choir, still remain. The ivy-clad ruin, set in the most charming wooded surroundings, has a peaceful, lost atmosphere about it.

DEGANWY, a village in the municipality of Conway, on the east side of the river, about 2 miles south of Llandudno. Facing south, the village has a sunny climate, and a very attractive situation by the river. Immediately behind the village, on the summit of Vaerdre Hill, stand the ruins of Deganwy Castle. Originally 'Din-Gonwy,' or Castle Conway, it was the greatest stronghold of the Welsh, one of the mighty bastions of the inner fortress of Eryri, or Snowdonia. Originally built in the sixth century, it was destroyed in 810, and later by Llewellyn the Great. Its final destruction was by Llewellyn ap Gryffydd in 1202. In 1284 Conway Castle pushed English overlordship across the river.

DENBIGH. This market town and railway junction in the Vale of Clwyd, 12 miles S. of Rhyl, is famous as an angling centre. The rivers Clwyd and Elwy offer good sport.

On the hill dominating the town stand the ruins of Denbigh Castle, one of Edward I's strongholds. Still standing are two walls, the outer being the walls of the old town. The castle had several towered gateways, of which one, the Burgesses Tower, is the best preserved.

After the death of Llewellyn, his brother David held a conference of the Welsh chiefs in Denbigh Castle and decided to continue resistance. David was killed soon after. Down the ages the castle belonged to many noble families, and at one time was the property of Robert Dudley, 1st Earl of Leicester. During the civil war Denbigh was the last of the Welsh castles to fall to the Parliamentarians. After the defeat of Rowton Moor (*see* CHESTER) it harboured King Charles for a few days before his flight north. To the SW. of Denbigh, in the dingle of Dolhyfryd, and near Gwaenynog, there is a memorial commemorating Dr. Johnson's tour to Wales in 1774, set up by his friend and host, Middleton. The memorial, however, an inscribed urn, tasted too much of mortality to the good doctor, who thought it 'an intention to bury me alive. Let him think, for the present, of some more acceptable memorial.'

DERWEN. A village some 4 miles to the N. of Corwen, on the railway to Ruthin. Derwen boasts an interesting Church, with a fifteenth-century rood-loft, and, in the churchyard, a Celtic Cross in good condition.

Tyttyll, near Bettws

Vale of Conway, Bettws

DINAS DINLLE. On the coast, about 3 miles S. of Caernarvon, Dinas Dinlle has a fine stretch of beach. The little village used to be the site of a great Roman Camp, the last vestiges of which can be seen on the top of a nearby hill.

DOLBADARN. A ruined castle, dating from the sixth century, on the southern end of Llyn Peris, and guarding the pass of Llanberis and the ancient stronghold of Eryri. The castle played an important part in the wars of Llewellyn and Edward I, of Glyndwr and Henry IV and V.

DOLGELLEY

NESTLING in the wide vale of the Wnion at the foot of Cader Idris, and near the head of the Mawddach estuary, Dolgelley, a county town in Merioneth, is famed for its rare scenic grandeur and its agelong historical associations.

The town, small and grey, is huddled in narrow streets about the church, and makes an admirable centre for tourists, anglers and hikers. Within easy reach are the famous Torrent Walk, in the grounds of Cearynch House, on the banks of a stream called Edog; and the Precipice Walk, which circles Moel Cynwch to the north. The road along the estuary to Barmouth is hardly rivalled in Britain for its splendour. Dolgelley is also a convenient centre for an ascent of Cader, either by the Bridle Path or the Foxes Path (*q.v.*).

In Dolgelley the famous Owen Glyndwr, Prince of Wales, held his last parliament in 1405. From here, too, he negotiated a treaty with Charles VII of France, but the house where the parliament was held has been demolished.

The Precipice Walk provides excellent panoramas of the Arans and Snowdon. It also looks down on to Nannau, the seat of the Vaughans. In the grounds of this mansion there took place a grim event many years ago. The Lord of Nannau was Howard Selé, cousin to Owen Glyndwr. Selé disapproved of Owen's rebellions, and the Abbot of Cymmer (*q.v.*) attempted a reconciliation. Owen came to Nannau, and went into the grounds with Selé. Seeing a fine buck, Glyndwr suggested that his cousin shoot it, but Selé turned his bow upon Glyndwr, and fired an arrow at him at point-blank range. Glyndwr, the cunning warrior, was wearing a mail coat under his shirt, and was unharmed. But Selé was never seen again. Forty years later a skeleton was found in a blasted oak tree in the grounds of Nannau.

DOLGOCH. A halt on the small-gauge railway from Towyn to Abergynolwyn and Tal-y-Llyn. Near an adjoining viaduct are the Dolgoch Falls.

DOLWYDDELAN, a small slate-quarrying village on the Bettws-Ffestiniog road, 5½ miles from Bettws. There is good salmon and trout fishing near at hand. The village has a sixteenth-century church, but the feature of outstanding interest is the ruined Castle, formerly one of the bastions of the Welsh Eryri. The castle was built as a square tower on top of an impressive rock. Here was born Llewellyn the Great, Prince of Wales and terror of the English armies. With Deganwy to the north and Dolbadarn to the west, the castle was one of the keys locking the doors to Snowdonia.

DWYGYFYLCHI. A small seaside village between Conway and Penmaenmawr, at the entrance to the popular Fairy Glen, a pleasant valley of rock, stream and wood. Teas are available at the entrance to the glen.

DYSERTH. 3½ miles from Rhyl, in the vale of Clwyd, the town boasts a parish church with an ancient Jesse window, supposed to have been taken from Basingwerk Abbey. The outstanding feature of the town is the ruined castle, built by Henry II in 1241, on the site of a Norman Keep which in turn was built on the ruins of an ancient British fortress. Henry's castle was attacked by Llewellyn-ap-Gryffyd, and razed to the ground.

EFENECHTYD. A small village near Ruthin. The church has a good rood-loft, and a font carved out of a single piece of oak.

EGLWYS RHOS. An old church near Deganwy, which has some fragments of antique stained glass in the altar window, a finely carved font and an old oak roof.

EGLWYSEG ROCKS. A range of high limestone cliffs running along the north side of the Vale of Llangollen, and rising to 1648 feet. From the range there is an extensive view of the Berwyns and right round to Shropshire.

EGLWYSEG MANOR. *See* PLAS UCHAF.

EIFL HILLS. Another name—the correct one !—for the Rivals (*q.v.*), a three-peaked mountain between Pwllheli and Clynnog.

ELISEG'S PILLAR, an ancient memorial stone, ¼ mile from Valle Crucis Abbey,

Llyn Ogwen in winter.

erected by a great grandson in memory of Eliseg, Prince of Powis, slain in battle at Bangor Iscoed in 603. The shaft stood some 12 feet high, but was damaged in the civil war, and now only 6 feet remain. It must originally have been cruciform, giving its name to the vale.

EWLOE CASTLE. Two ruined towers in a thick wood some 2 miles N. of Hawarden are all that remain of Ewloe Castle, near which, in 1157, the army of Henry II was routed.

FADRYN. A mountain N. of Pwllheli, 1217 feet high, on the summit of which is an ancient fort, having in the centre a dolmen called Arthur's Table.

FAIRBOURNE. A village on the spit of level land facing Barmouth across the tip of the Mawddach estuary. There is good bathing and a golf course.

FFESTINIOG

A slate quarrying town at the head of the vale of Ffestiniog, on the river Dwyryd, 15 miles south of Bettws. The quarrying does not prevent this from being one of the most delightful spots in Wales. The vale is one of unspoilt beauty, and where the 10,000 miners go is nobody's business, for their livelihood does not create unsightly blemishes, as at Bethesda or Llanberis. Near at hand are the Cynfael Falls, ½ mile south of the station. In three great leaps the river hurls itself down a rocky chasm to the Dwyryd below.

About 2 miles along the Bala road are the Beddau Gwry Ardudwy, 'the graves of the Men of Ardudwy.' This is a pleasantly wicked yarn. There used to be about thirty mounds, 3 feet high, to be seen near the road, but of these all trace has now disappeared. It was said that the men of Ardudwy, a name to be proud of, for Ardudwy is one of the oldest centres of civilisation in these islands, once marched North into the gentle Vale of Clwyd, and there seized the womenfolk and withdrew with their prizes towards Ffestiniog. But the men of the gentle vale were not so gentle themselves and pursued the rievers, who, in a battle near this site, were killed to a man. The women, however, had grown attached to their new lovers, and rather than return north with their husbands, they drowned themselves in the nearby Llyn-y-Morwynion—'the Lake of the Maidens.'

Railway from Portmadoc to Blaenau now closed—See Map Section 2.

hillside above the valley, so that, if you are sitting in the rear coach, and see the engine going in quite the opposite direction, there is no need to pull the communication cord. Once you get used to this you will enjoy the trip.
The Parish church of Ffestiniog is of little architectural interest, but commands a good view of the vale and of the mountains beyond.

FFYNNON ASA. St. Asaph's Well, about 1 mile from Dyserth, in the Parish of Cwm, is reputed to have healing qualities. It was for long held sacred.

FFYNNON FAIR. St. Mary's Well is near the river Elwy, and about 2 miles from St. Asaph Cathedral. This was also a sacred well and the waters were used for baptism. Near-by stand the ruins of an ancient chapel.

FLINT. This town on the N. Wales coast, on the Dee estuary, is not much visited by tourists. It used to be important in Roman times because of the mines nearby—even to-day mining and chemical manufacture are the town's chief industries. In the Middle Ages it acquired some importance because of Flint Castle, by the sea. This is probably one of Edward I's structures. It was here that Edward II rejoiced to meet his favourite, Piers Gaveston, just back from his

Good Books About North Wales

Over Welsh Hills	*F. S. Smythe*
Wild Wales	*George Borrow*
North Wales (Highways and Byways Series)	
Old North Wales	*A. Jones*
Through North Wales on Horseback	*H. Hewett*
Prehistoric and Roman Wales	*R. E. M. Wheeler*
Romance of Wales	*A. G. Bradley*
Wayfarer in Wales	*W. W. Davies*
Land of Wales	*E. and P. Lewis*
Odd Corners in North Wales	*W. T. Palmer*
In Search of Wales	*H. V. Morton*

The Conway near Llanrwst.

banishment in Ireland. Here, too, as Shakespeare tells us, Richard II was betrayed to Bolingbroke. This is hardly true, but what is good enough for Shakespeare will do.

FOXES PATH. A favourite climb—quite safe—up Cader Idris, starting from Dolgelley. *See* CADER.

GARDDEN. A low hill crowned with a circular camp of ancient British origin, about 1 mile NW. of Ruabon.

GARTH FERRY. A ferry across the Menai Straits from Bangor to Beaumaris.

GIMLET ROCK. *See* PWLLHELI.

GLANCONWAY. A village and railway halt on the north bank of the Conway estuary, near Llandudno junction.

GLYNDWR'S MOUNT. Glyndwr is supposed to have had a castle on the top of this 30-feet mound 3 miles NE. of Corwen.

GLODDAETH. An old mansion in a wooded estate near Llandudno, the seat of the Mostyn family. Through the generosity of the owner, the grounds are open to the public, and the mansion, which is in part Elizabethan, and contains a good collection of pictures, may be seen on certain days.

GLYDERS. *See* SNOWDONIA.

GLYN CEIRIOG. The attractive Ceiriog valley stretching from Chirk to Llangollen and beyond.

Marine Drive, Great Orme's Head, Llandudno.

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Heights in feet

The lower ground is tinted light red

Llanerchymedd
Benllech
Red Wharf Bay
Llanddona
Pentraeth
ANGLESEY
Llandegfan
Gwalchmai
Pentre-berw
Caerwen
Llanfair
Menai Br.
Bodorgan
Bryn-Siencyn
Port Dinorwic
Penborough
CAERNARVON
Llanfair
Llanfairpwll
Llanrug
Llanbeblig
Llanberis
Llyn Padarn
Waen-fawr
Dinas Dinlle
Bettws Garmon
Mynydd Mawr
Groeslon
Nantlle
Llyn Cwellyn
Snowdon
Rhyddfudd
Yr Aran
Nantlle
Clynnog-fawr
Pant-glas
Llanaelhaiarn
Brynkin
Dolbenmaen
Llithfaen
Four Crosses
Llanystumdwy
Criccieth
Borth-y-gest
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Colwyn Bay
Old Colwyn
Conway Bay
Deganwy
Conwy
Penmaenmawr
Dwygyfylchi
Llandudno
Llanfairfechan
Aber
Beaumaris
Menai Br.
BANGOR
Llandegai
Llanllechid
Bethesda
Carnedd Llewelyn
Carnedd Dafydd
Elidyr Fawr
Llyn Ogwen
Ogwen Falls
Llyn Eigiau
Llyn Cowlyd
Trefriw
Llanrwst
Capel Curig
Glyder-fach
Glyder Fawr
Pen-y-gwryd
Moel Siabod
Bettws-y-Coed
Conway Falls
Pandy Falls
Penmachno
Llyn Gwynant
Llyn Dinas
Beddgelert
Moel Hebog
Pont Aber Glaslyn
Pont Aberglaslyn
Blaenau Ffestiniog
Llyn Conwy
Ffestiniog
Carnedd-y-Filast
Arenig Fach
Arenig Fawr
Tanygrisiau
Moelwyn
Tremadoc
Portmadoc
Borth-y-gest
Harlech
Llanfair
Llandanwg
Mochras
Llanaber
Barmouth
Fairbourne Bay
Cader Idris
Pen-y-Gader
Llyn Cau
Llyn Gwernan
Llyn Cwm Bychan
Llyn Eiddew Bach
Llyn Eiddew Mawr
Llyn Mwyngil
Llyn-y-llyn
Llyn Tal-y-llyn
Llyn Myngil
Llyn Dysynni
Llyn Gwernan
Llyn Cau

Rhyl
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Ewloe
Buckley
Broughton
Aldford
Rosset
Holt
Barton
St Asaph
Cefn Hills
Trefnant
Henllan
Denbigh
Llanrhaiadr
Moel Famma
1820
Moel Arthur
1696
Ruthin
Llanrhyda
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Clwyd
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WREXHAM
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Foel Goch
Vale of Edeyrnion
Llandrillo
Pale
2572
2713
Moel Sych
Pistyll Rhaiadr Falls
Llanrhaiadr
Llangynog
Pen y bont fawr
Lake Vyrnwy
Llanwddyn
Llanfyllin
R. Vyrnwy
Meifod
Pen-y-bont
R. Banwy
Llanerfyl
Llanfair Caereinion
R. Rhiw
Tregynon
Llanymynech
Chirk
Ifton Heath
Ellesmere
Northwood
R. Ceiriog
Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog
Offa's Dyke
Clanberis
Llyn Padarn
Dolbadarn Cas.
Llyn Peris
Falls
Y Garn
3104
Llyn Idwal
Llyn Ogwen
Nant Peris (Old Llanberis)
Pass of Llanberis
Glyder Fawr
3279
3268
Glyder Fach
Llyn Cwm Ffynnon
Pen-y-Gwryd
Pen-y-Pass
Crib-y-ddysgl
3493
Crib Goch
3023
Glastyn
SNOWDON
Hotel
Rest.
Y Wyddfa
Llyn Llydaw
Cwm Dyli
Power Sta.
Llyn Llewedd
2947
2032
Llyn Ffynnon-y-gwas
Llyn Dwythwch
2382
Llyn Cwellyn
Llyn Dywarchen
Rhyd-ddu
2080
Llyn Gader
Colwyn
Falls
Plas-cwm-y-llan
Llyn Gwynant
Yr Aran
2451
Chalets
Gwynant
Plas gwynant
Craig Wen
Llyn Dinas
Nant
Llyn Clewellyn
Moel Lefain
2082
Beddgelert
Aber Glaslyn
Glaslyn
Afon Gwyrfai
Afon Colwyn
Afon Glaslyn
Afon Nant Gwynant
Afon Cwm-dy
Afon Llyfni
Afon Llyfnant
SNOWDONIA
Miles

0 1 2 3 4 Miles
The Skerries
Bull Bay
Carmel Hd.
Cemaes Bay
Amlwch
Llanfechell
Pensarn
Rhyd-wen
Rhos-y-bol
Llanfaethlu
Moelfre
Llanallgo
Llanddeusant
Llanerchymedd
Benllech
Red Wharf Bay
Holyhead Mt. 720
HOLYHEAD
Llanfachraeth
Bouedern
Valley
Llanddona
HOLY ISLAND
Tre-Arddur Bay
ANGLESEY
Pentraeth
Bryngwran
Gwalchmai
Llanfaelrhys
Menai Br.
BANGOR
Rhosneigr
Llanfaelog
Pentre-berw
Caernarvon
Llandegai
Aberffraw
Bodorgan
Bryn Siencyn
Port Dinorwic
Newborough
Llanfrugo
Ebenezer
CAERNARVON
Malldraeth
Llanbeblig
Elidyr Fawr 3029
Llanberis
Waen-fawr
Caernarvon
Bay
Llanfaelfan
Dinas Dinlle
Llandwrog
Bettws Garmon
Mynydd Mawr
Groeston
Nantlle
Llyn Cwellyn 356
Snowdon
Rhyd-ddu
Yr Aran 2451
Nantlle Hills 2301
1986
Vale of Pennant
Pant-glas
Moel Hebog 2566
Beddgelert
Clynnog fawr
1712
Yr Eifl 1849
Llanaelhaiarn
Brynkir
Dolbenmaen
Clothfaen
Nevin
Four Crossings
Llanystumdwy
Criccieth
Portmadoc
Tremadoc
Rodfean
Abererch
Barmouth Ferry
Pwllheli
Tremadoc Bay
Llangwnadl
Llanbedrog
Harlech
Methlem 965
Llangian
St Tudwal's
Abersoch
Llandanwg
Aberdaron
Llanengan
St Tudwal's Is.
East
West
Mochras
Porth Nigel
Bardsey Sd.
Abbey
Bardsey
Barmouth
PYRIGHT

Cromlech on Great Orme's Head.

GLYNDYFRDWY. This is the name of a stretch of the Dee valley between Corwen and Llangollen. The road runs along the slope of the Berwyns, and through some fine enough scenery. The valley was once owned by Owen Glyndwr, who took his name from it.

GLOYLYN. An excellent trout lake to the NW. of Rhinog Fawr, and best reached from Llanbedr.

GORPHWYSFA. The 'resting-place' is aptly named, for by the time you have slogged up the Llanberis Pass you are due a long halt. The other and better known name of this place is Pen-y-Pass (*q.v.*), and there is an Inn by the roadside just where it runs downhill to Pen-y-Gwryd and Nant Gwynant. Pen-y-Pass is a mecca of hill walkers and climbers.

GT. ORME'S HEAD. *See* LLANDUDNO.

GAWENYNOG. *See* DENBIGH.

GWRYCH CASTLE. Just to the west of Abergele, the Castle is modern but stands on the site of a more ancient building. Its situation is imposing.

GWYDIR CASTLE. A castle in the vicinity of Llanrwst. Although most of the building is modern, part dates from the sixteenth century. It has been badly damaged by fire. Inside there is a screen said to have been worked by Mary, Queen of Scots. A Youth Hostel is near the Castle.

GWYTHERIN. *See* HOLYWELL.

HARLECH

THE county town of Merioneth is situated on the West Coast between Barmouth and Portmadoc, and is dominated by the famous castle. On Harlech Morfa, the low ground to the west, between the hills and sea, there is a really excellent golf course, and a half mile of sandy beach offering safe bathing.

The castle, one of Edward I's great forts, is perched on a steep rock, right up to the base of which the waves used to lash. But the sea has now gone back a good distance, leaving the castle high and dry. This rock has been fortified since very early times. The Mabinogion, the collection of Welsh sagas, tells us how Bran the Blessed was seated on the rock, surrounded by his court, when the Irish King Matholwch came to seek the hand of the fair Branwell, the king's sister. What happened then is a long, long story, but Bran is historically supposed to have introduced Christianity from Rome, and that takes us back a good bit in the History of Harlech. Edward's Castle, built in 1283, is all but impregnable from the seaward side by reason of the cliff, while to landward a moat

Harlech Castle.

Harlech Castle.

cut deep into the living rock adds to its safety. The ruins are quadrangular, with massive corner towers, and walls of great thickness. The entrance gateway, flanked by twin towers, is a noble sight. Harlech is supposed to have been built by the architect who designed Caernarvon, but it does not quite rival that mighty fortress.

Harlech was captured by Glyndwr in 1404. In the Wars of the Roses it was held for Lancaster by Dafydd ap Ifan, who boasted that having held a castle in France till all the old women of Wales talked of him, he would now hold Harlech till all the old women of France did likewise. He made a good attempt, too, but was at last starved into surrender.

HAWARDEN, a small town (*pron.* Harden), a few miles to the west of Chester, overlooking the Dee, and noted for the ruined keep of its ancient Castle, dating back to pre-Conquest days. The ruin stands in the grounds of the modern Castle, the residence of Gladstone, a memorial window to whom, by Burne-Jones, can be seen in Hawarden Church. The church is Early English, restored by the statesman. Hawarden has a library and hostel endowed by him also.

HENGWRT. A seat of the Vaughan family near Cymmer Abbey and Dolgelley.

HENLLAN. A village near St. Asaph, with an old church. The tower, which is the earliest work, stands apart from the rest of the building.

HOLT. A small town on the Welsh bank of the Dee between Chester and Wrexham. The parish church and the bridge across the Dee were both built in the fourteenth century. Holt formerly possessed a castle of Edward I workmanship, but very little remains of it.

HOLYWELL. This is a busy little town on the North Coast, on the Dee estuary, about 5 miles from Flint. It is a pretty spot for a visit. The Holy Well is that of St. Winifred, a seventh-century saint with a notable legend. The well once discharged something like 100 tons a minute, but in latter years a mine working tapped the source, reducing the flow to 20 tons. The well, by the way, never freezes. St. Winifred was sought in marriage by a Prince Caradoc. When she turned him down, he tried to win her by force, but the lady fled.

In rage, the Prince captured her and had her head cut off. The head rolled downhill, till it came to the church, in which her uncle, St. Beuno, was preaching. He set the head back on the body again, to which it was miraculously joined, and the lady was restored to life. She lived to found a nunnery at Gwytherin.

The waters of St. Winifred's Well have, for centuries, been thought to have restorative properties, and pilgrimage has been made from many European countries. The well is in a crypt, over which is a chapel, of late Perpendicular style, and built by Margaret, mother of Henry VII. On the steps of the chapel and crypt may be seen a red moss. As the Elizabethan poet says:—

'The pure vermilion blood that issues from her veins
Unto this very day the pearly gravel staines;
Her hair was turned to mosse, whose sweetness doth declare
In liveliness of youth the natural sweets she bare.'

PRINCE OF WALES

Prince of Wales is the title borne by the eldest son of the sovereign of England. After the fall of the last native princes of Wales, Llewelyn in 1282 and David in 1283, Wales came fully under the dominion of Edward I., who in 1284 is fabled to have presented the Welsh with a prince in his infant son, Edward, really born at Caernarvon Castle. Edward, by the death of his elder brother four months later, became heir-apparent; but it was not till 1301 that he was created Prince of Wales. Edward III in 1343 invested his son Edward the Black Prince with the Principality, and from that time the title of Prince of Wales has been borne by the eldest son of the reigning king. Till the time of Charles II the Welsh connection was oddly maintained by the arrangement that the Prince of Wales always had a Welsh wet-nurse. The title is not inherited, and has usually been bestowed by patent and investiture, though in a few instances the heir to the throne has become Prince of Wales simply by being so declared.

LLANABER. On the road to Harlech, 1½ miles N. of Barmouth, is the village of Llanaber. The church dates from the thirteenth century, and is really a fine example of Early English architecture. Although the exterior is plain, the interior is full of beautiful craftsmanship. Note the unusual feature of the single Lancet east window; the exquisite arch of the south door; the chancel roof, and the great pillars of the arch. Interesting, too, is the stone, inscribed:—

CAELIXTI MONEDO REGI,

which probably means 'Coelixtus, King of Anglesey.' The stone was found by an antiquary in the sand of Barmouth beach.

LLANELHAIARN. A village on the road from Pwllheli to Clynnog, about 6 miles N. of the former place, and on the east slope of the Rivals. The village has a fine church, restored, dating from the sixth century, and possessing a wooden rood-screen of thirteenth-century workmanship.

LLANASAPH. A village near Prestatyn, with a church claiming some stained glass from Basingwerk.

LLANBEBLIG. The parish church of Caernarvon, ½ mile to the SE. of the town, owes its names to Publicus or Peblig, brother of Princess Helena, mother of Roman Emperor Constantine, who was born here. The church dates in part from the fourteenth century. It has an oak roof, and a tower with the unusual feature of stepped battlements. Tradition has it that the father of Constantine, and the Emperor himself, were both buried here.

LLANBEDR. A village on the Barmouth-Harlech road, at the mouth of the wooded valley of Afon Artro. It is a good spot for anglers.

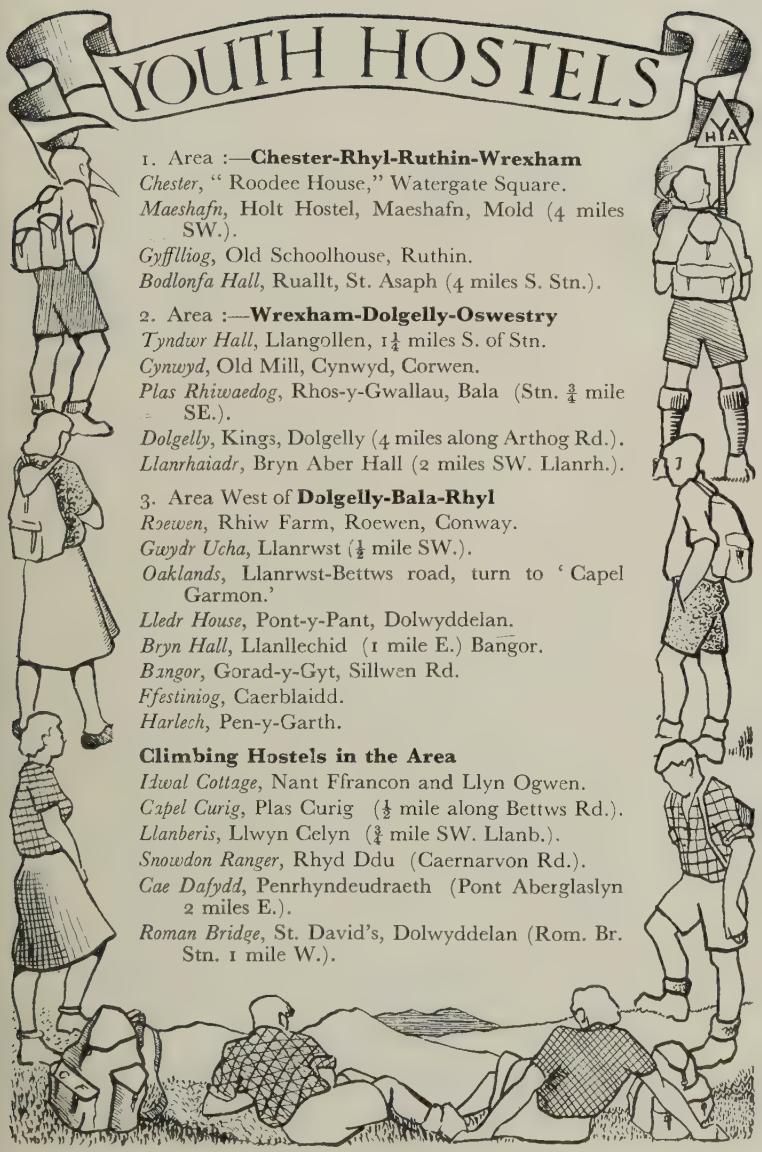
LLANBEDROG. This coastal village, 4 miles SW. of Pwllheli, is noted for the pleasure gardens and Art Gallery of Glyn-y-Weddw, a fine mansion in 50 acres of ground. There is a refreshment room and concert-hall, and the gallery contains works by De Wint, Cox, Landseer, Teniers and Turner.

LLANBERIS. There are really two villages of Llanberis and Old Llanberis (or Nant Peris), lying on the south shores of Llyn Padarn and Llyn Peris respectively, about 2 miles apart, on the Caernarvon-Capel Curig road. They guard the approach to the magnificent, bare and bleak Pass of Llanberis, which runs past the shoulder of Snowdon to Nant Gwynant. Midway between the villages stand the ruins of Dolbadarn Castle, the old guardian of the pass.

Llanberis, at the end of Llyn Padarn, is now almost a town. Here is the railway station, and the terminus of the line up Snowdon. Although the backbone of the village is made up of miners' cottages, there are railway hotels, good shops, and some big, pleasant houses on the lake shores. Old Llanberis, more or less joined to the new town by a string of houses along the road, is astride the neck of the pass. The church of St. Peris, in fifteenth-century Perpendicular style, has an ancient roof. There is a healing well nearby.

Facing: Climbing on Tryfan.

Farm in Nant Ffrancon.



1. Area :—**Chester-Rhyl-Ruthin-Wrexham**

Chester, " Roodee House," Watergate Square.

Maeshafn, Holt Hostel, Maeshafn, Mold (4 miles SW.).

Gyffylliog, Old Schoolhouse, Ruthin.

Bodlonfa Hall, Ruallt, St. Asaph (4 miles S. Stn.).

2. Area :—**Wrexham-Dolgelly-Oswestry**

Tyndwr Hall, Llangollen, 1¼ miles S. of Stn.

Cynwyd, Old Mill, Cynwyd, Corwen.

Plas Rhiwaedog, Rhos-y-Gwallau, Bala (Stn. ¾ mile SE.).

Dolgelly, Kings, Dolgelly (4 miles along Arthog Rd.).

Llanrhaiadr, Bryn Aber Hall (2 miles SW. Llanrh.).

3. Area West of **Dolgelly-Bala-Rhyl**

Roewen, Rhiw Farm, Roewen, Conway.

Gwydr Ucha, Llanrwst (½ mile SW.).

Oaklands, Llanrwst-Bettws road, turn to 'Capel Garmon.'

Lledr House, Pont-y-Pant, Dolwyddelan.

Bryn Hall, Llanllechid (1 mile E.) Bangor.

Bangor, Gorad-y-Gyt, Sillwen Rd.

Ffestiniog, Caerblaidd.

Harlech, Pen-y-Garth.

Climbing Hostels in the Area

Idwal Cottage, Nant Ffrancon and Llyn Ogwen.

Capel Curig, Plas Curig (½ mile along Bettws Rd.).

Llanberis, Llwyn Celyn (¾ mile SW. Llanb.).

Snowdon Ranger, Rhyd Ddu (Caernarvon Rd.).

Cae Dafydd, Penrhyndeudraeth (Pont Aberglaslyn 2 miles E.).

Roman Bridge, St. David's, Dolwyddelan (Rom. Br. Stn. 1 mile W.).

Llanberis has been spoilt by the slate quarries, and if you want the best view of Snowdon you won't get it here. Yet the quarries are dwarfed by the majesty of Y Wyddfa rising above the steep ridge of Clogwyn d'ur Arddu, and there is a grim splendour still about the scene. The town, too, is a useful centre for climbers, as, apart from the line and track up Snowdon, there are good walks either up the Pass or north over to Ogwen.

LLANDANWG. An old church 2 miles S. of Harlech, the property of the Society for Preservation of Ancient Monuments.

LLANDDWYWE. This is a little village 5 miles N. of Barmouth on the Harlech road. The church has an Inigo Jones monument to the Vaughans of Cors-y-Gedol. Near the entrance to the latter mansion—not the hotel in Barmouth !—is Coytan Arthur, or Arthur's Quoit, a huge cromlech said to have been hurled by King Arthur from the top of Moelfre. You can still see his fingerprints on the cromlech—or so they say !

LLANDEGAI. A 'model' village a little over 2 miles E. of Bangor, and near Penrhyn Park entrance. The village was built by Lord Penrhyn for his workmen, and is attractively laid out, though without any shops. The church, however, is very old, as old as the avenue of yew trees leading to it, and maybe older.

LLANDRILLO-IN-RHOS. *See* Colwyn Bay.

The Happy Valley, Llandudno.

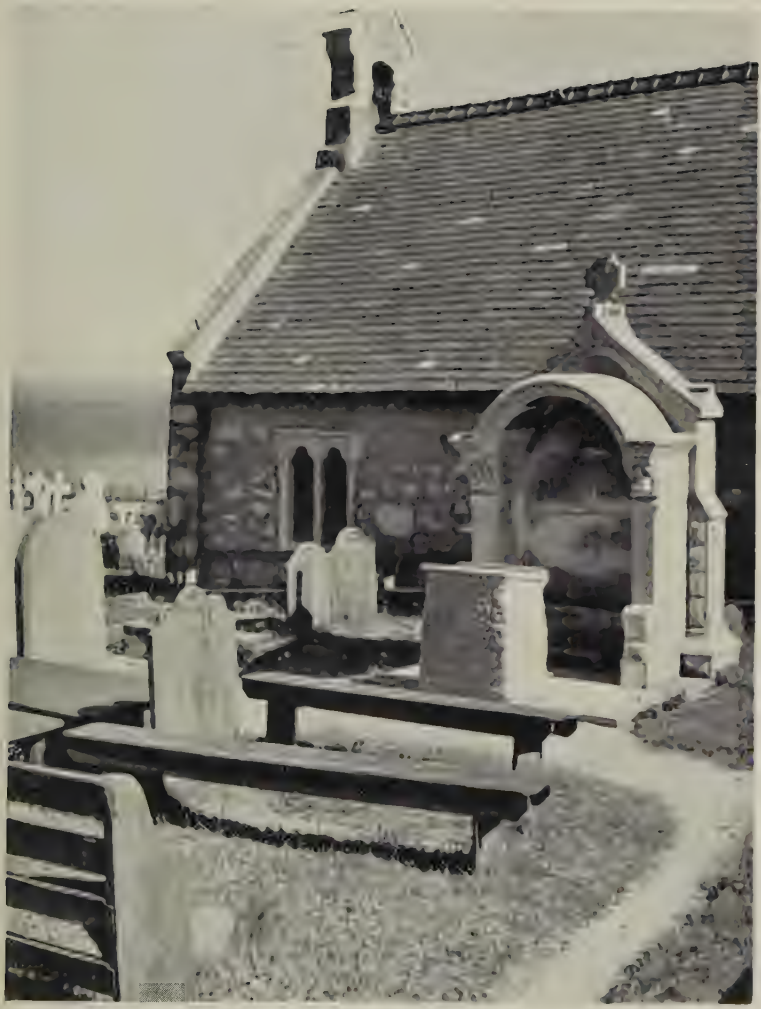
The Sands, Orme Bay.

LLANDUDNO

THE queen of N. Wales holiday resorts stretches itself around the wide, sandy sweep of Orme Bay, between the headlands of the Little Orme to the east and the Great Orme to the west. Between the two the town lies brilliantly in the sunshine which seems to make its home here for most of the year, a vast curve of hotels and boarding houses—more than 2000 of them—theatres, cinemas, amusement centres, lying back from the $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile long promenade and the great golden sands thronged with bathers and holidaymakers.

Llandudno really straddles the low, narrow peninsula made by the jutting Great Orme. Indeed, not content with one magnificent sea front, the town has Conway Bay, or the west shore, to the south-west as a second. This latter is a veritable children's paradise, with sands that stretch far out at low tide. The main front, of course, is the Orme Bay. Along the length of the broad promenade lie, among other

Llandudno Bay.



Open-air pulpit, St. Tudno's Church, Great Orme.

The Happy Valley, Llandudno.

amenities, a bandstand, on the sands, with 'Arcadia,' the large amusement centre, nearby.

Farther west, the half-mile long pier runs seaward, with the great pavilion, seating 4000, beside it. In the pavilion concerts are held regularly, and the town has its own orchestra. From the pier, which has facilities for bathing at certain times, there are steamer trips to Anglesey, the Isle of Man, and round the noble Great Orme.

The sands of Orme Bay are very fine, and the bathing is safe. It is still to some extent done from the old-fashioned machines, which are popular.

Apart from the wonderful facilities for bathing and boating, the town offers plenty of scope to golfers, with its two full courses, the Great Orme Course on the headland, and the North Wales Club on the West Shore. Both are first-rate courses. Facilities also exist for tennis, bowls, fresh- and salt-water fishing, and many other sports. The Grand, Vaudeville and Winter Garden theatres provide shows and concerts, while the town is well supplied with cinemas and dance halls.

Llandudno is a well-laid-out town, with a sense of spaciousness. Not only does it have the wide stretch of promenade, but

Marine Drive, Llandudno.

Overleaf: The Front, Llandudno.

the streets themselves are large and attractive. Mostyn Street is the main centre, and there is also the great Gloddaeth Street and avenue which runs from the Orme Bay right through to the west shore.

The Great Orme, of course, is one of the principal attractions of Llandudno, and here man has added to Nature to increase the scenic value and amenities. Here are the Haulfre Gardens, a lovely spot, where teas are served—nobly sited on the slopes of the headland; the Orme Tramway, a cable car which climbs right up to the Great Orme golf course; while the Marine Drive is a 'must' for all visitors. This road is a clever piece of engineering, cut out of the rock of the headland, running seemingly precariously above the sea, and at times tunnelled into and buttressed by the rock of the Orme. Half way round there is the Great Orme Lighthouse. The view all round the Marine Drive is one of changing splendour. Now the sea, now Anglesey comes into view, and finally the high, distant peaks of Snowdonia. Traffic on the Drive is one-way only, starting from near the Pier. The Great Orme has some interesting caves, the Llech cave being the best. In this respect the Little Orme is not far behind.

Conway Bay, on the west shore, while not so suitable for sea-bathing, is compensated by having the Deganwy Swimming Pool. The view from the Bay across into Snowdonia is very good. Here, too, is a model yacht pond, and the North Wales Golf Course. One of the chief attractions here is the Happy Valley, on the slope of the Orme, a well-laid-out public garden with seats, lawns, a profusion of semi-tropical plants, and a very excellent rock garden. Happy Valley is a popular place with mothers and children.

The surrounding country makes excellent rambling. The Great Orme is large enough for many a pleasant excursion. One of its attractions is the lonely little St. Tudno's Church—Llandudno means 'church of St. Tudno'—a fifteenth-century building incorporating some eleventh- and twelfth-century work in its walls. The original church was built here in the sixth century. Within easy reach, too, are Conway with its ancient Castle, and the rival resort of Colwyn Bay, while Deganwy, the other great castle of the district, is only a walk away to the south-west.

Pen Helyg from the North-west.

LLANDULAS. A village on the river Dulas, between Abergele and Colwyn. It claims to be the historic site of the betrayal of Richard II into the hands of Bolingbroke, before his removal to Flint.

LLANDYSILIO. A village near Valle Crucis Abbey, on the Dee.

LLANEGRYN. A village in the Dysynni valley, 4 miles NW. of Towyn. The rood-loft in the church is an example of delicate craftsmanship.

LLANELIAN. Some 2 miles SE. of Colwyn Bay, Llanelian is noteworthy for its church and its well. The former dates from the fifteenth century, and has a finely carved rood-loft. Note also in the churchyard the tomb with the Scottish Lion and the English Leopard on its quarterings; it is said to mark the grave of a descendant of the 'Fair Maid of Kent,' wife of the Black Prince.

Ffynnon Elian, the 'cursing Well,' has been destroyed, but a tree marks the site. A pebble thrown into the water, with the initials of the person to be cursed inscribed upon it, brought doom to the victim. The well was regarded with terror and awe throughout Wales.

LLANELLTYD. A small village near where the Mawddach turns west and widens into the estuary, about 2 miles from Dolgelley. Opposite are the ruins of Cymmer Abbey.

LLANENGAN. 'I, Einion, King of Wales, built this church to the glory of the eternal judge.' So reads an inscription on a stone at the base of the tower of Llanengan church. Einion was a sixth-century king, and the church is one of the oldest in Wales. The village is over a mile SW. of Abersoch on the Lleyn peninsula. The church has an exquisite rood-screen, and the bells in the tower, including the 'Silver Bell,' are supposed to have come from Bardsey.

LLANFAGLAN. Some Roman bricks are incorporated in the walls of this ancient church, which stands about 2 miles SW. of Caernarvon. Inside there is a monolith with the inscription:—

FILI LOVERNII ANATEMORI.

LLANFAIR DYFFRYN CLWYD. Two miles S. of Ruthin, this village has a pleasant setting and a long name. There is a fourteenth-century church as well.

LLANFAIR. This is the Llanfair near Harlech, and the view towards the town, 1 mile to the north, is very fine, with the castle in the middle distance, and the hills beyond Portmadoc away to the north.

LLANFAIRFECHAN. This popular holiday resort on the coast of Conway Bay, between Conway and Bangor, is 3 miles SW. of Penmaenmawr. The climate is healthy, the sands at low tide are excellent, the bathing is safe. There are tennis courts, bowling greens, a model yacht pond, and an interesting 9-hole golf course. Freshwater fishing on Llyn Dulyn and Llyn Aber can be obtained with permission, while the sea fishing at a spot called the 'Swash' is very good.

Old copper mine and Moel Siabod.

The village, for it is no more, has a population of 3000. There runs through it a stream which comes down a pleasant, if steep, glen. To the north of the village the big hill of Penmaenmawr shoulders itself right down to the sea, while to the east and south all Snowdonia towers up imposingly. The hills are near enough to make the village a good centre for hill walking. Across the bay, Anglesey lies entrancingly.

LLANFAIR-TALHAIARN. A small village on the river Elwy, 5 miles S. of Abergele. There is good fishing on the river.

LLANFIHANGEL - Y - PENNANT. North from Abergynolwyn, and about 2 miles beyond Tal-y-Llyn, the hamlet of Llanfihangel, near the head of the Dysynni valley, makes a convenient starting point for an ascent of Cader Idris. Nearby are the ruins of Castell-y-Beri, once the greatest of Welsh castles, in which Llewellyn ap Dafydd held out for long against Edward I.

LLANGELYNIN CHURCH. This church, a very old building, said to date from 1350, stands high above the south bank of the Conway about 3 miles from Penmaenmawr.

LLANGOLLEN. This delightful town is set astride the Dee, between Ruabon and Corwen. The neighbouring scenery, not mountainous, but hilly and wooded, is very attractive, and the vale of the Dee, or Glyndwfrdwy, is hardly surpassed in Wales. There is good angling to be had on the river, both for salmon and trout.

The town is famed for its bridge, one of the 'seven wonders of Wales.' It is basically a 4-arched structure, added to with the coming of the railway. Near the town is Plas Newydd, once the home of the 'Ladies of Llangollen,' two famous old maidens who became quite a show-piece in the nineteenth century, and were visited by many famous people. They dressed like men. When the poet Wordsworth visited Plas Newydd, he described it in a poem as a 'low-roofed cot.' This annoyed the old ladies, who were proud of their grotesque mansion.

Facing the town on top of a 1000-foot hill is Castell Dinas Bran, or 'Crow Castle,' a ruined structure of very early date. It belonged in the sixth century to Eliseg, Prince of Powis, whose memorial pillar stands in Valle Crucis.

LLANRHAIADR. A village in the vale of Clwyd, about 2 miles S. of Denbigh. The church is famed for the stained glass in the Jesse Window. Tradition has it that the glass came from Basingwerk. The window is supposed to have been hidden for safety, during the Civil War, in an oak chest, which can be seen in the church.

LLANRHOS. *See* EGLWYS RHOS.

LLANRHUD. The church in this village, to the east of Ruthin, has a sixteenth-century memorial which shows a husband and wife with their 14 children kneeling behind them.

LLANRHYCHWYN CHURCH. There are not many buildings in Britain to-day as old as this church,

for it has withstood the weathering of 1200 years. The font has been established as of eighth-century workmanship, and the antiquity of the architecture, the unusual construction of the roof timbers, and the thickness of the walls suggest that the church dates from much the same period. Its internal length is only 40 feet. There are two aisles, of which the north is the older. Popularly the building is known as Llewellyn's Old Church, from the tradition that Llewellyn the Great worshipped there.

LLANRWST, a pleasant town on the river Conway some 5 miles N. of Bettws. The hills in the neighbourhood are not giants, but are on the 1000-feet level, and quite imposing. On the west bank of the Conway, facing the town, the ground rises in a wooded escarpment. Llanrwst is an excellent angling centre. The town is the tradi-

Winter scene in Snowdonia.

tional birthplace of Inigo Jones, the famous Jacobean architect. Examples of his work can be seen, at least in part, in the Gwydir Chapel, adjoining the parish church, of fifteenth-century work. Here, too, is the stone coffin of Llewellyn the Great, Prince of Wales from 1194 to 1240.

Llanrwst Bridge, over the Conway, is said to be of Inigo Jones design, and a curious tradition attaches to it. Jones was supposed to suffer from a quaking palsy, and in memory of his affliction, so constructed the bridge that if the keystone be struck, the whole bridge starts to quake. Opinion is divided on this subject, but there are many who will vouch for the phenomenon. From Llanrwst there are many delightful walks, the most popular being to Bettws.

LLANSANTFFRAID GLYN CEIRIOG. A village on the Ceiriog, to the west of Chirk. It is a popular angling centre.

LLANTYSILIO. In the neighbourhood of Llangollen, the village has a church which incorporates some of the remains of Valle Crucis Abbey.

LLANUWCHLLYN. The view from this village, on the south shore of Bala Lake, is very fine.

LLANWDDYN. This village is a delight to guide book writers, for it lies several fathoms under Lake Vyrnwy. When the reservoir was made in the 1880's, the village was flooded. A new church and some houses were built near the lake, and take the name of the old village.

LLANYCIL. The Parish Church of Bala, about a mile from the village.

FISHING IN NORTH WALES

TROUT and salmon fishing of varying quality is available to visitors at many points in North Wales, notably : Bangor, Beddgellert, Caernarvon, Portmadoc, Llangollen, Llanrwst, Rhyl, Barmouth, Bala, Dolgelley, Llansedr, Penrhyndrendraeth and Towyn.

LLANYSTUMDWY, a little village about 2 miles W. of Criccieth, on the river Dwyfawr. Approaching the village from Criccieth, one can see, just opposite the Feathers Inn, two small cottages. The one to the west was the home of the late Earl Lloyd George during his boyhood.

On being created Earl, he assumed the title of his native river, becoming Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor. In the village there is an institute erected through the generosity of the nearby landowners, including the famous statesman. To the funds, he donated the money he had won in various damage actions against the Press.

LLEYN. The peninsula forming the western tip of Caernarvonshire.

LLITHFAEN. A village about 2 miles SW. of Llanaelhaiarn, providing a suitable starting point for an ascent of the Rivals, a famous peak in Lleyn.

LLWYNGWRIL. This village, on the coast between Towyn and Barmouth, is increasing in popularity as a quiet little resort. The beach is a small distance from the village, and rough in places, but offers some pleasant spots for a bathe. Through the centre of the village runs an excellent trout stream.

LLYSFAEN. A village to the E. of Colwyn Bay, offering, from the summit of Llysfaen hill, a grand view of the Great Orme.

MACHYNLLETH. A market town, some 4 miles upstream from the head of the Dovey estuary, Machynlleth is a popular tourist and angling centre. The town itself has little of outstanding attraction, but is set in fine, softly wooded scenery, and near the entrance to the very lovely vale of Corris. A ' toy ' railway runs from the town 6 miles up to Corris at the head of the vale.

In 1402 Glyndwr held Parliament in the town, and accepted the Kingship of Wales. An attempt at assassination was foiled, and the intriguer, Sir Dafydd Gam, was imprisoned, but lived to fight—and die—at Agincourt. The parliament house, now an institute, may be visited in Maengwyn Street.

MAENTWROG. A village (*pron.* Man-too-rog), in a splendid position in the vale of Ffestiniog, 3 miles from the town of that name. The name means ' stone of Turog,' an early British saint. Near at hand are two picturesque waterfalls, the Rhaiadr Du and the Raven Fall.

MAEN ACHWYNFAN. The ' stone of lamentation,' a magnificent early wheel cross, is near Whitford, in the vicinity of Holywell.

MAES GARMON. The site of a battle in the fifth century, in which an army of Christians defeated the Picts by crying out ' Alleluia.' The field is 1 mile W. of Mold.

MAESYPANDY. The name of a farm associated with a route up Cader Idris. The route starts from Abergynolwyn on the road to Tal-y-Llyn. A half mile short of the lake a path on the left ascends the mountain.

MALLWYD. A village popular with anglers, to the S. of Dinas Mawddy. In the church porch are some huge bones, supposed to be those of a whale.

MAWDDACH. A river rising in the north of Merioneth, and flowing by

way of Dolgelley to the famous estuary at Barmouth. *See* section on NATURAL FEATURES.

MOCHRAS. An island off the mouth of the Artro, a little south of Harlech. The island, which is no more than a spit of land, can be reached at low tide, and is famous for the loveliness of the shells found there.

NANHORON. A 3-mile long valley SW. of Pwlhelil.

NANNAU. A famous mansion of the Vaughan family, near Dolgelley (*q.v.*).

NANT FFRANCON. *See* Section on NATURAL FEATURES.

NANT GWYNANT. *See* Section on NATURAL FEATURES.

NANT PERIS. *See* LLANBERIS.

NANTLLE. A village about 7 miles S. of Caernarvon, on the road from the mining village of Pen-y-Groes to Rhydd Dhu. *See also* NATURAL FEATURES.

NEVIN. A picturesque little resort near the sea on the west coast of the Lleyn peninsula, some 7 miles NW. of Pwllheli. It has a good sandy beach, offering safe bathing and boating. There is a golf course nearby. The surrounding country is hilly, and dominated by the triple peak of Yr Eifl, the Rivals, to the north.

OGWEN. *See* NATURAL FEATURES and SNOWDONIA.

OGWEN COTTAGE. No guide book to North Wales could be complete without reference to Ogwen Cottage, one of the shrines of British mountaineering. The cottage nestles by the roadside at the northern end of the lake, and looks across to the shoulder of Pen-yr-Oleu-Wen. Nearby is a Youth Hostel. The Climbing Book in the cottage is almost a history of rock climbing, and includes the names of most of our famous climbers over half a century. The cottage has nowadays lost a little of its glory, but in the memory of most of the older generation of climbers it stands for some of the richest days in their lives.

OLD COLWYN. A suburb to the E. of Colwyn Bay (*q.v.*).

OLD LLANBERIS. *See* LLANBERIS.

PANDY. Pandy Mill and Falls are a beauty spot near the Conway Falls, 2 miles S. of Bettws.

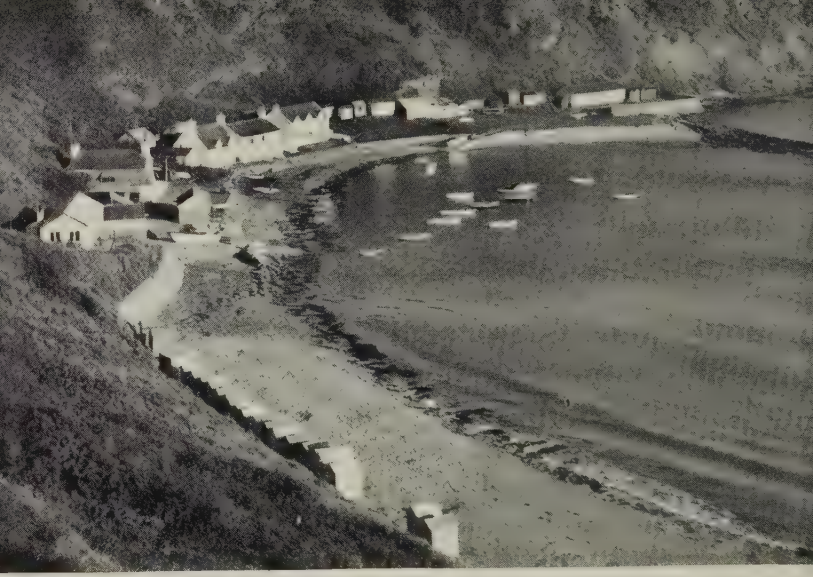
PANTASAPH. A couple of miles to the west of Holywell, this little village is the centre of a religious community, including a monastery, convent and orphanage. It was the one-time home of the Victorian poet and critic, Francis Thompson.

PENIARTH. A mansion near Llanegrin, 4 miles from Towyn. It contains a rare library, though many of the most precious MSS. are now in the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth.

PENMACHNO. A small village on the river Machno, a tributary joining the Conway just above the Conway Falls, 2 miles S. of Bettws. The village contains the tombstone of a Roman Briton, Carausius.

PENMAENBACH. The 'Little Headland' at the east end of the valley in which stands the village of Penmaenmawr.

Facing: In the Nant Ffrancon.



The Harbour, Nevin.

PENMAENMAWR, a holiday resort, always increasing in a well-deserved popularity, about 3 miles W. of Conway. The village is shielded by the two headlands of Penmaenmawr (1500 feet), and Penmaenbach. Though the beach is narrow, it is sandy and the bathing is safe. Boating is popular, and there is a very good 9-hole golf course. Although, as in most of the Welsh coast resorts, the railway runs between the town and the front, the view is not spoilt. Along the front there is a mile-long promenade, with pier and pavilion.

Penmaenmawr is set in fine walking country. The ascent of the headland, or of the Sychnant Pass, make good walking. From the head of this pass there is a short cut over the moor to Conway. Among many beauty spots there stand out the Fairy Glen, and the Green Gorge, while, behind the town, the Druid's circle is worthy of a visit. There are excellent camping facilities near Penmaenmawr. Altogether this is one of the nicer places for a quiet but busy seaside holiday.

The Welsh Mountains

JENKIN : Why law you now, iss not Pen-maen-mawr and Craig Eriri as good sound as Atlas, every whit of him ?

EVAN : 'Iss caull'd the British Aulpes, Craig-Eriri, a very sufficient hills !

Ben Jonson

PENRHYN. The great Penrhyn Quarries at Bethesda are among the largest in the world. For Penrhyn Castle, a modern building in imitation Norman architecture, *see* LLANDEGAI.

PENSARN. A sea coast suburb and railway halt near Abergele.

PENTRE VOELAS. This village has acquired some importance as a road junction. It is on the main Holyhead road between Corwen and Bettws. A road runs north to Denbigh and another south to Ffestiniog.

PEN-Y-GADER. *See* NATURAL FEATURES.

PEN-Y-GWRYD. Pen-y-Gwryd is a famous Inn on the road from Capel Curig through Nant Gwynant, just short of the junction with the road through the Llanberis Pass. The Inn stands solitary by the roadside, at a height of 900 feet. It is another of the famous names in the story of British climbing. Throughout the second half of the last century it was the base for Snowdon climbers, when the modern technique of rock-climbing was being so energetically worked out. It was in this Inn, in 1898, that the Climbers Club came into existence. To-day it is still a loved haunt of many a climber. Anglers, too, have been known to stay here with all their nefarious apparatus !

PEN-Y-PASS. Like its neighbour, Pen-y-Gwryd, Pen-y-Pass Inn has played a big part in climbing history. The hotel stands at the top of the Llanberis Pass, just before the road runs down to Nant Gwynant. Its other name, Gorphwysfa, means the ' resting place,' and as such it has been welcome to many after a fine hard day on Lliwedd or Crib Goch. This is the best starting point for several climbs on Snowdon, including the Capel-Curig route, the Pig Path, and the Snowdon Horseshoe.

PIG TRACK. *See* SNOWDONIA.

PLAS NEWYDD. The home of the ' Ladies of Llangollen '—*see* LLANGOLLEN.

PLAS UCHAF. Also known as Eglwyseg Manor, Plas Uchaf is a well-known Elizabethan manor house in the vale below the Eglwyseg Rocks, N. of Llangollen.

POOL PARK. The home of Lord Bagot, about 2 miles N. of Ruthin, contains an ancient monolith with inscriptions in Ogham and Latin.

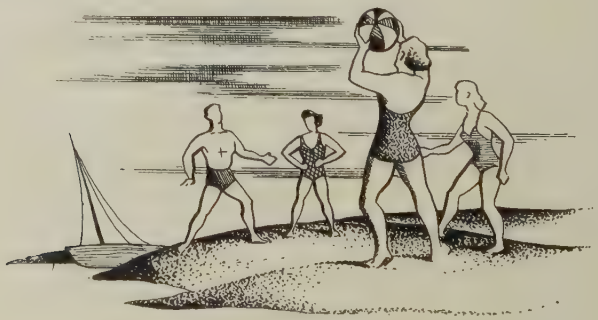
PONT ABERGLASLYN. *See* ABERGLASLYN.

PORTH HYWEL GOCH. This hill, the ' gate of Hywel the Red,' is on the east bank of the Conway, opposite the stretch from Caerhun to Tal-y-Bont. It was the haunt of a giant who used to bestride the river while he bent down to wash.

PORTH NEIGWL. *See* NATURAL FEATURES.

PORTMADOC

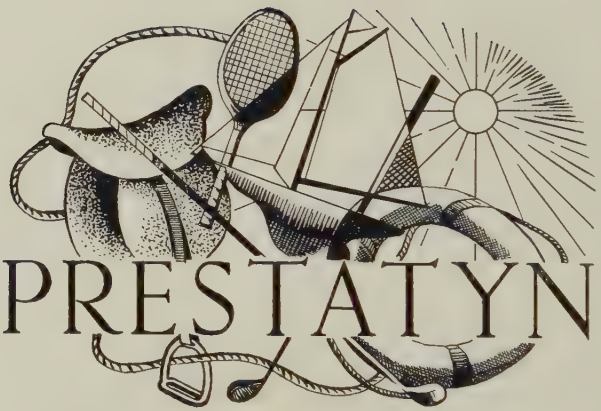
A very popular holiday resort on Cardigan Bay. The town owes its origin to the land reclamation schemes of a Mr. Madocks, who, in 1800, drained the estuary of the vale of Madoc, and started the building of Tremadoc town. He followed this up with the construction of a vast embankment which reclaimed many acres. The embankment, however, was damaged by a storm, and had to be rebuilt. In this work he was assisted by the enthusiasm of the poet Shelley, who was staying at the time in Wales. In 1821 the town of Portmadoc began to be built. There is a good and long stretch of beach, offering safe bathing. The angling in the district attracts many, especially to Borth-y-Gest, an attractive little place nearby, where there is excellent fishing for both salmon and trout. Portmadoc also has an 18-hole golf course.



On the promontory between the Glaslyn and Dwyryd rivers there is a model village, called Port Meirion. It was designed after the Italian style, and runs steeply down from a graceful bell tower, or campanile, built on a wooded rock, to the estuary below. A few pink and blue washed houses cling almost precariously to the steep slope. Seen from the Harlech coast, Port Meirion looks delightfully clean and sparkling, and a closer inspection does nothing but enhance the first impression. The village can be visited, for a small fee, between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Portmadoc claims association with two great men of letters. Shelley stayed for a while at Pen-yr-allt about a mile from the town, while T. E. Lawrence of Arabia, one of the almost mythical figures of the twentieth century, was born in the town itself.

On the West Face, Gribin Ridge.



PRESTATYN

ON the bracing North Coast, between the hills and sea, some 4 miles E. of Rhyl, Prestatyn is justifiably popular as a holiday resort. For not only is it the most easily accessible of Welsh seaside places, being only half an hour by train from Chester, not only has it a delightful setting, and all the amenities that one could hope for, but it possesses a rare climate, exceptionally sunny, and with hardly any rain; while the air is very soft and clean.

The town is laid out on modern lines on the mile-wide coastal plain. A long stretch of sandy beach makes bathing and sunbathing a delight. This beach is in three sections, from east to west called Barkby Beach, Central Beach and Ffrith Bathing Beach. The Ffrith was acquired some fifteen years ago by the town, and has been designed as a delightful centre, with excellent bathing facilities, a model yacht pond, 18-hole putting course, car park, modern café, and pleasant walks. Between Ffrith and Central Beaches is the up-to-date Prestatyn Holiday Camp. The Camp is attractively laid out with modern chalets, large central camp buildings housing every form of amusement. There is a private swimming pool, outdoor sports of all kinds, as well as concerts, dancing, and many other attractions.

Central Beach is flanked by a promenade and bathing cubicles. Here is the pavilion and swimming pool, with the tennis courts, cricket club and bowling greens nearby. Barkby

Overleaf: Carnedd Llewellyn and Craig yr Ysfa from Pen Llithrig.

beach nas the golf club-house, which is also an hotel, so that the enthusiast can walk out after breakfast straight on to the first tee. The excellent 18-hole course lies to the east along the dunes, and, though the fairways are flat, they are difficult enough, and the whole course provides an invigorating round.

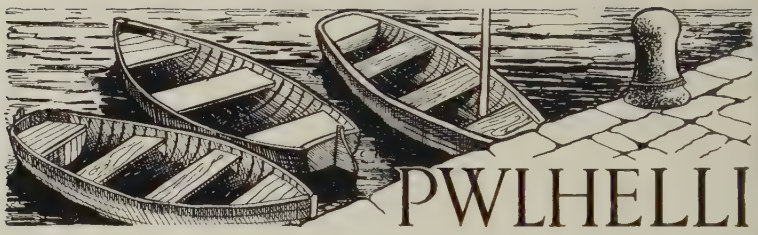
From Central Beach there runs off the wide Bastion Boulevard, the main artery of the town. After it crosses the railway, which runs through Prestatyn parallel with the coast, it becomes the High Street, with its bright and well-stocked shops. Farther inland still, the road ascends the slopes towards 800-feet Newmarket Gop. The hillside is a favourite spot, full of delightful nooks, and has a capacious sun shelter with a good outlook to seaward. To the south-west is Coed yr Esgob, a pleasant stretch of woodland, and nearby is the 9-hole Meliden golf course. To the east are the Coed Bell woods, another favourite place with visitors.

The country around Prestatyn is suitable both for walking and riding, and several hiring stables in the town cater for this latter sport. Then, for the visitor who prefers a less strenuous time there are cinemas, concert parties and the attractions of the pavilion and pool.

The district abounds in pleasant corners, fine views, and interesting buildings. The whole atmosphere is one of airiness and space, heightened by the greenness of the surrounding country and the great mountain background of the Carnedds and Snowdonia.

Prestatyn, itself, can boast at least the site of an ancient castle, at Nant Mill. It was probably built in the eleventh century, but nothing remains but a grassy mound. But on top of Newmarket Gop there is a remarkable 40-foot tumulus. The church at Gwaenysgor, a mile or so south-east of the town, has a Norman font and an Elizabethan chalice, with a chased inscription.

Cwm Idwal.

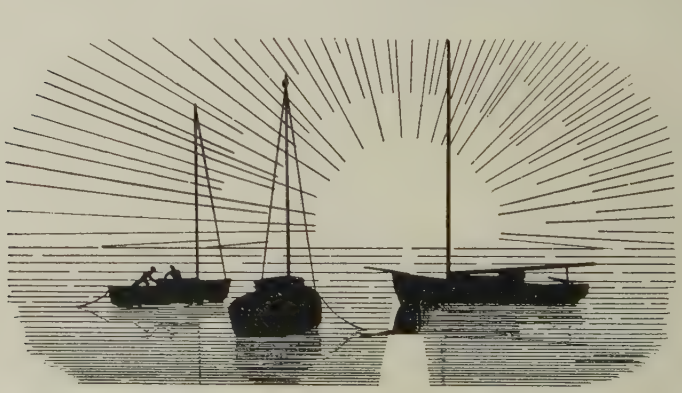


PWLHELLI

A sheltered seaside resort on the south coast of the Lleyn peninsula, Pwllheli (*pron.* poolth-helley), has much to offer the visitor. The harbour, with its inner and outer sections, offers anchorage for yachts, as well as many smaller craft. The boating and sea fishing is excellent. Fresh-water fishing for salmon and trout can be had on licence on the river Erch, and elsewhere. There is an 18-hole golf course.

The beach, though the sand is not so fine as at some other resorts, runs westwards for a full 5 miles; and, as the tide never recedes far, the bathing is first-class. On the rough country around the town there is some good shooting to be had, especially during the winter season.

Due to its southerly position, and the shelter afforded by the encircling high ground, Pwllheli has an admirable climate all the year round, and in the winter is as mild as Torquay, making it a popular place for health visitors and retired people. The town itself is quiet and attractive; the front is in two parts, the west end and the South Beach; they are joined by a promenade, flanked by up-to-date hotels and boarding houses.



Summit of Llwedd.

RHOS-ON-SEA. *See* COLWYN BAY.

RHUDDLAN. This pleasant little town on the river Clwyd is about 3 miles S. of Rhyl. It is worthy of a visit for its famous old ruined castle. Like most of the native Welsh castles, it has a very chequered history, dating back to Pre-conquest days. It changed hands from Welsh to Norman, then to Welsh again, and was finally captured and rebuilt by Edward I in 1277.

Rhuddlan, indeed, was an important place in those days, for it was right on the course taken by the invading English armies. Indeed, it was usually, in modern terms, the end of the first phase of invasion. Beyond it, the real fighting began. It was in Rhuddlan Castle, too, that the Prince was born whom Edward, by guile, managed to foist on the Welsh as Prince of Wales.

To-day the castle looks gentle and brooding, with its round towers looking down on the narrow waters of the Clwyd.

Rhuddlan also boasts an old Parliament House and an old Banqueting House.

The sands at Rhyl.

Clwyd Estuary, Rhyl.

RHYL

RHYL is a very popular holiday resort on the North Coast, by the mouth of the river Clwyd. It is famous as 'Sunny Rhyl,' and justifies its title with an average of over 300 sunny days a year. The town can be reached from Chester by train in 40 minutes and from London in 4 hours. In that short time one changes from the smoke and grime of big cities to the airiness, sunshine and frolic of this gay resort. Apart from its sunshine, Rhyl is famous for its glorious beaches, which offer safe bathing to thousands. For those who prefer fresh water, however, the Rhyl swimming Pool is a fine affair, 100 yards long, with a capacity of 400, and seating accommodation for 5000.

A promenade, which has recently been improved, runs along the front, and central along its length is the Pier, with the vast Amphitheatre concert hall at its base. West of the Pier are the marine gardens, a well-designed public amenity, and west again, near

Pavilion and Paddling Pool, Rhyl.

the Clwyd, is the 40-acre Marine lake, 4 feet deep, which makes pleasure boating a popular pastime. Rhyl has also a fine botanical garden. For golfers there is a good 18-hole course between Rhyl and Prestatyn, while tennis courts and bowling greens are open to visitors.

The angler finds Rhyl a good spot, either for coarse fishing or for salmon and trout in the Clwyd or Elwy, as well as in Llanefydd Reservoir, while the more leisurely visitor is well catered for with cinemas, ballrooms and amusement park. The town and its surroundings are spacious and airy. The surrounding country, especially up the vale of Clwyd, is attractive, and the neighbouring towns are worth a visit, especially St. Asaph with its cathedral. From the Forydd Bridge, across the Clwyd, there is a fine view up the vale.

ROMAN STEPS. Flights of stone steps cut in the northern slopes of Rhinog Fawr, towards Bwlch-y-Tyddiad, and some miles inland from Llanbedr. The easiest approach is from Llyn Cwm Bychan, at the source of the Afon Artro. Cars can be got as far as Cwm Bychan farm. The steps are supposed to be of Roman

origin, but archæologists put little faith in the story, and generally consider that they date from mediæval times. There are some 2000 steps, rough stone flags in surprisingly good repair.

RUABON, A small town and railway junction between Wrexham and Llangollen. Near the town is Wynnstay Park, open to the public on application.

RUTHIN, an attractive little town in a most delightful situation in the vale of Clwyd, some 7 miles S. of Denbigh. Ruthin has the remains of a castle built by Edward I. It is now restored and used as a nursing home and is not open to the public. There is also an interesting old church, the north aisle of which dates back in part to the twelfth century. Noteworthy are the oak roof in this aisle, with its varied

The Bridge, Ruthin.

carving. In St. Peter's Square, the heart of Ruthin, there is an attractive fourteenth-century building with three storeys of Dormer windows.

ST. ASAPH, a small town on the spit of land between the rivers Cwlyd and Elwy, about 4 miles S. of Rhyl. The principal feature is the Cathedral, the smallest in England and Wales. Originally founded in the sixth century by St. Mungo, the Saint of Glasgow, when he was in refuge in Wales, and entrusted by him to a holy man called Asa, it was several times destroyed. Rebuilt in the late thirteenth century, in the fifteenth it lay again in ruins, after being wrecked by Owen Glyndwr, but it was finally rebuilt in 1482. This was the building which was restored in the nineteenth century by Sir Gilbert Scott. The tower is imposing, and the chancel stalls are of fine workmanship. In the vestry are several items of interest, including a Breeches Bible.

Near St. Asaph, in the Cefn Hills, are caves which were found to contain bones of hyena, bear, reindeer and other animals which used to wander about these islands when Britain was still joined to the continent of Europe, and which were doubtless slain by our early ancestors. Although the caves are now empty, they are worth a visit —open on Thursdays and Saturdays— as the view of the surrounding country is very pleasant.

ST. TUDNO'S CHURCH. *See* LLANDUDNO.

ST. WINEFRIDE'S WELL. *See* HOLYWELL.

SEGONTIUM. *See* CAERNARVON.

SARN BADRIG. *See* NATURAL FEATURES.

SWALLOW FALLS. *See* BETTWS-Y-COED.

TAN-Y-BWLCH. A station on the 'toy' railway from Portmadoc to Ffestiniog, a good centre for climbers in the Moelwyns or Cynicht.

TOWYN

A popular and healthy resort on the coastal plain south of the Dysynni river, between Barmouth and Aberdovey. The town offers safe bathing, though the beach is pebbly with no more than scraps of sand, and golf on an 18-hole course, as well as tennis, bowls and such. Boating in the Dysynni estuary is

The Vale of Conway.

excellent, while there is fishing for salmon and trout to be had on the river. Towyn also boasts an excellent and healthy climate, good spring water, and admirable mountain surroundings.

The town itself is well laid out, with a wide esplanade, and modern hotels and boarding houses. The building of chief interest is the parish church, the earliest version of which was founded in the sixth century by one Cadvan, a missionary from Brittany. The present building has a Norman nave and aisles, as well as some Early English work in the chancel. Noteworthy is St. Cadvan's stone, one of the earliest of Welsh monuments, and supposedly part of the tomb of the saint. Archæologists, however, have come to no conclusion on the meaning of the inscription on the monolith.

Towyn is a good centre for many interesting walks or motor tours. To the north, the twin valleys of the Fathew and Dysynni offer some really fine scenery. The view up the latter valley, seen from Pant on the north side of the river, with the ' bird rock ' in the middle distance and Cader in the background, is hard to beat. Either valley leads to Tal-y-Llyn, the

supremely beautiful lake lying under Cader. From Towyn there is a route up the nearer valley, by ' toy ' railway as far as Abergynolwyn, whence the lake is some 3 miles distant by road. But, though the Dysynni route is more roundabout, it is the more attractive of the two. North of the estuary again—cross by the railway bridge at the mouth—is Glyndwr's cave, where the hero once hid from enemies. It is just where the rocks run to the shore.

TRAWSFYNNYDD. A small village on the shore of the large reservoir south of Ffestiniog.

TREFNANT. A village a couple of miles south of St. Asaph, which has a modern church in Decorated style.

TREFIW, a beautifully sited village on the west bank of the Conway some 5 miles N. of Bettws. The village makes a delightfully quiet holiday place, good for walking, and more restful pursuits. There is boating to be had on the exquisite Llyn Crafnant, some 2 miles by road, south of the village. There is a tea room by the lake. Llyn Geirionydd, farther to the south, is not so attractive, but is said to have been near the dwelling of Taliessin, most famous of all Welsh bards, to whose memory there is a memorial cross nearby.

TREMADOC. A smallish village iess than a mile north of Portmadoc. It was built by Mr. William Madocks In the early nineteenth century.

TRE'R CEIRI. On the eastern peak of the Rivals, in the Lleyn peninsula, is Tre'r Ceiri, the largest ancient fort in N. Wales. It is, of course, in ruins, but the plan of the prehistoric town can clearly be seen, with its triple walls, some parts 15 feet high, and its round cells.

TY HYLL. The ' Ugly House,' is on the Bettws-Capel Curig road, near the Swallow Falls. It is a cottage made of massive unmortared stones.

VAERDRE HILL. The hill behind Deganwy, on the rocky top of which are the ruins of Deganwy Castle.

VALE OF PENNANT. An attractive spot N. of Dolbenmaen, and about 6 miles N. of Criccieth.

VALE OF CLWYD. *See* NATURAL FEATURES.

VALLE CRUCIS. This most beautiful of ruined Welsh buildings lies about half a mile off the Llangollen-Corwen road, to the north, and barely 2 miles from the former town. The ruin, which consists of the east and west gables, some ivy-covered walls, and the Chapter House and monks quarters, is of delicate proportions, and has an exquisite setting amid tree and stream. Beyond, the hills rise up in an ever higher flight. The Abbey was founded in 1199, and took its name from the cruciform Eliseg's Pillar in the vale. The building was destroyed during the reign of Henry VIII.

Facing: Tryfan.

NATURAL FEATURES

Hills, Lakes, Rivers

Crib y Ddysgyl from Crib Goch.

Afon Artro. A river in Ardudwy, the old mountain range between Barmouth and Portmadoc. It rises in the north of the district and flows through a wooded valley to Llanbedr. There is a good walk, starting from Llanbedr, following the Artro up to Cwm Bychan, then turning up the Roman Steps and round the back of Rhinog Fawr into Bwlch Drws Ardudwy, and back by Nant Col.

Afon Dysynni. A river flowing out of Tal-y-Llyn. At Abergynolwyn it leaves the natural valley and flows north for a mile, then south-west again to its estuary north of Towyn. It is famed for the peculiar 'Bird Rock' on its bank.

Aled. A tributary of the Elwy, rising in Denbigh, with a picturesque fall, Rhaiadr Mawr.

Alwen. A tributary of the Dee, rising in Llyn Alwen, some 4 miles NE. of Pentre Voelas. It joins the Dee south of Corwen.

Arans. Aran Mawddy (2970) and Aran Benllyn (2901), are twin peaks on the south of the road from Bala to Machynlleth, and immediately to the north-east of the village of Dinas Mawddy, from which ascents are usually made. The ordinary route up Aran Mawddy is 'round the back,' by way of Hen Gwm and the shoulder of Dyrysgol. From the summit of Mawddy the route runs along the crest to Benllyn.

Arenigs. Two peaks, Arenig Fach and Arenig Fawr (2264 and 2800 feet respectively), lying immediately north and south of the road from Bala to Ffestiniog.

Bala. Bala is the largest lake in N. Wales, being about 4 miles long and over a half mile wide. It is set amid the fine scenery of the Arans and Berwyns aobut 10 miles SW. of Corwen, and is circled by two roads. The village of Bala lies at the north end.

Berwins. The high ridge of moors running along the south shore of Bala lake, and the road from Bala to Llangollen. The highest point is Moel Sych —the 'Dry Hill' (2713)— then, farther north, Cader Fronwen (2572), and finally Moel Ferna, SE. of Corwen. There is some good walking to be had on the range both from the Bala side and from Llangollen. From Bala one can take the old road over to Llangynog, and leave it at the crest, cutting left up to the summit of Moel Sych, and so on along the summits.

Black Ladders. Ysgolion Duon—the 'Black Ladders'—is a great ring of dark crags falling away to the north of Carnedd Dafydd.

Bwlch Drws Ardudwy. The fine pass between the Rhinogs in Ardudwy, reached from Nant Col and Llanbedr.

Bwlch Glas. The col between Y Wyddfa and Carnedd Ugain, the junction place of the Pig Track and the Ranger Path up Snowdon.

Overleaf: View from Carnedd Dafydd.

Bwlch Rhiwfelen. On the road to Llangollen, 10 miles S. of Ruthin, a 1300-feet pass affording an excellent view of Snowdonia.

Bwlch Rhiw Hirnant. A pass near Bala lake, the southern descent of which is of high scenic quality.

Bwlch Tyddiad. The pass at the summit of the Roman Steps above Cwm Bychan, just to the NE. of Rhinog Fawr.

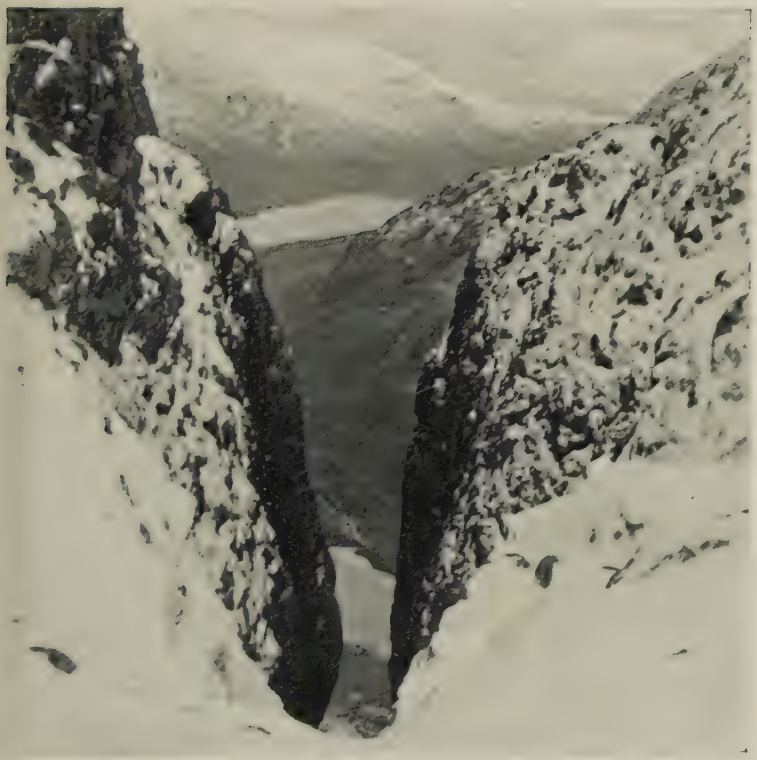
Bwlch y Groes. The ' Pass of the Cross ' is 5 miles SE. of Llanuwchllyn, on the road to Dinas Mawddy. It is very wild and solitary and rises to 1950 feet.

Cader Idris. The long range flanking the south side of the Mawddach estuary, between Barmouth junction and Dolgelley, and with Tal-y-Llyn to the south of the range. The highest point is Pen-y-Gader (2927), with the subsidiary peaks of Mynydd Moel (2804) to the east, and a point to the west, above Llyn Cyri (2306). From both Barmouth and Dolgelley the scene is very fine, the cliffs rising up, darkly, from the moor. From Barmouth there is an excellent walk right along the north of the range. Cross the estuary by the bridge, and at Arthog bear right to the farm at Hafod-y-Fach; thence there is a well-made track up to the crest and along the ridge. From the summit a route runs over to Llanfihangel-y-Pennant on the Tal-y-Llyn side. The most famous route is the Foxes Path from Dolgelley. This is by lane to Llyn Gwernan, thence left to Tyddyn and Llyn-y-Gafr, and finally up to Llyn-y-Gader, magnificently cradled under the peak itself. There are several ascents from Tal-y-Llyn and the south side, either from Llanfihangel or from the farm at Maesypandy, half a mile SW. of the lake. One of the best is from beyond the north end of the lake, by way first of the stream flowing out of the sombrely splendid Llyn Cau, then left round Craig-y-Cau and on to Pen-y-Gader.

Ceiriog. The pretty valley of the Ceiriog running west for a few miles from Chirk. It is traversed by a tramway with open coaches as far as the village of Glynceiriog.

Clwyd. The wide vale of the river Clwyd, running north from Derwen by way of Ruthin, Denbigh and St. Asaph to its mouth near Rhyl. The river is popular with anglers, but is of no great size. The vale is wide, pleasant, and agricultural, and the towns along its length are very attractive. To the west are the Clwydan hills, good enough walking country, but not rivalling Snowdonia.

Conway. The valley of the Conway river, rising in the lake of that name between Bettws and Trawsfynnyd, and flowing north to Llanrwst—where there is a famous bridge—to its estuary past Conway town. The name probably means ' principal river,' and the Conway was indeed one of the chief barriers against



Twll Du, the "Devil's Kitchen," above Cwm Idwal.

English aggression. The vale is not particularly attractive except around Bettws.

Cwm Dyli. The 'horseshoe' of Snowdon, containing Llyn Llydaw, and crossed by the tracks of the Pig Path and the Capel Curig route.

Cwm Glas. One of the cwms of Snowdon, looking out on to the Llanberis Pass about 2 miles NW. of Pen-y-Pass. The southern wall of the cwm ends in the feature called the 'parson's nose' an interesting rock climb.

Cwm Idwal. *See* SNOWDONIA.

Dee. The part of the Dee which concerns us is its length from its source in Bala to Llangollen, by way of Corwen. From Llangollen it flows northwards to Chester and its wide estuary. From Corwen to Llangollen there is a stretch called Glyndyfrwdy, the

ancient home of Owen Glyndwr, who took his name from the vale. There is good fishing on this stretch of the river—it used to be done from coracles—and tickets for anglers are available.

Eglwyseg Rocks. A range of limestone cliffs running along the north side of the Vale of Llangollen, rising to 1648 feet. From the ridge there is an extensive view of the Berwyns and right round to Shropshire.

Elidyr Fawr. A mountain (3029) in the range between Nant Ffrancon and Llanberis. The best ascent is from Tan-y-Bwlch, by way of the path to the lake of Marchlyn Mawr, and thence up the scree to the summit of the mountain.

Elwy. A river popular with anglers. It is a tributary of the Clwyd, which rises near Llanrwst. Into it there flows the Aled. It joins the Clwyd below St. Asaph.

Glaslyn. The river Glaslyn, the boundary between Caernarvon and Merioneth, rises east of the peak of Snowdon and flows through Nant Gwynant to Beddgelert, where it is joined by the Colwyn. From there it flows through the famous Pass of Aberglaslyn to the sea.

Halkyn Mountain. A long, low hill near Holywell. Its highest point is only 983 feet, but there are many good walks to be had along its level plateau, which offers a distant view of Snowdonia.

Lledr. A river rising in the mountains to the south-east of Nant Gwynant, and flowing past Dolwyddelan to the junction with the Conway near the Fairy Glen south of Bettws.

Llugwy. The river issuing from Llynau Mymbwr and flowing past Capel Curig to join the Conway at Bettws. It is well known for the famous Swallow Falls near the latter village.

Llyn Crafnant. A beautiful lake between Capel Curig and Trefiw.

Llyn Cwm Ffynnon. A small lake a little to the north of Pen-y-Pass.

Llyn Eigiau. A largish lake to the east of Carnedd Llewellyn, a stream from which flows into the Conway near Dolgarrog.

Llyn Glaslyn. The black tarn cradled under the scree of Y Wyddfa.

Llyn Gwynant. The large lake in Nant Gwynant, through which runs the river Glaslyn, issuing from Llyn Llydaw.

Llyn Idwal. The lake in the magnificent Cwm Idwal, 1000 feet above Ogwen Cottage, and surrounded by an amphitheatre of crags.

Llyn Ogwen. One of the most beautiful lakes in Wales. It lies at the head of Nant Ffrancon, on the stretch of the Holyhead road between Bethesda and Capel Curig. The lake is a mile long, but, due to its glacial origin, is only some ten feet deep. All around it rise the great hills of 'sub-Snowdonia.' On the south of

the lake are Tryfan and the Glyders, on the north, Pen-yr-Oleu-Wen and the more distant slopes of the Carnedds. At the Nant Ffrancon end, just by the roadside, is the famous Ogwen Cottage, with the Youth Hostel nearby.

Llyn Padarn. A lake about 2 miles long on the Caernarvon-Capel Curig road. By the lakeside is the town of Llanberis. Ahead lies the famous Pass of Llanberis.

Llyn Peris. A lake just beyond the eastern end of Llyn Padarn. Old Llanberis is a little past the farthest shore.

Llyn Ddinas. A smallish lake in Nant Gwynant, about 2 miles NE. of Beddgelert.

Llyn Ogwen, looking towards Nant Ffrancon.

Llynau Mymbwr. The twin lakes immediately to the south-west of Capel Curig, on the road from Pen-y-Gwryd. From Capel Curig across the lake there is a magnificent view into the Snowdon Horseshoe.

Llyn Quellyn. A lake on the road from Caernarvon to Beddgelert, about 2 miles SE. of Bettws Gaemon. It lies to the south of the road. Midway along the lake is the Quellyn lake station, from where the ranger track starts on the ascent of Snowdon.

Machno. A small stream rising near Y Foel Fras and flowing through Penmachno to the Conway near the Conway Falls south of Bettws. It is famed for the Machno Falls on its course.

Moel Fammau. A mountain in the Clwydan hills, some 8 miles SE. of Denbigh. It is 1823 feet high and crowned by the ruins of a horrible monument.

Moel Hebog. A fine hill (2566), dominating the valley and village of Beddgelert from the west. The name means 'Hill of the Hawk.' Moel Hebog can be climbed from the farm of Cwm Cloch, a line of cairns marking the route to the summit. The hill was once the hiding-place of Owen Glyndwr.

Nant Gwynant. This very beautiful valley — correctly Nant Gwynan—runs from Pen-y-Gwryd in the north to Beddgelert in the south, past the flank of Snowdon. The scenery along the route is varied and magnificent, and the valley has

Tal-y-lyn.

a larger share of trees than most places in N. Wales. The valley is watered by the river Glaslyn, which issues from Llyn Glaslyn in the cup of Snowdon, and flows through Llynau Gwynant and Ddinas to Beddgelert, where it joins the Colwyn and turns south through Aberglaslyn.

The valley is admirable country for walkers, climbers or motorists. There are convenient routes up Snowdon, or southwards to Cynicht or the Moelwyns. Anglers will find much amusement and profit in the lakes and rivers, while there is fairly good shooting on the lakes in winter. By far the best centre to stay is Beddgelert, though the Inn at Pen-y-Gwryd is an admirable spot.

Nant Ffrancon. The 'Vale of the Beavers,' is a very noble valley. Bordered by great hills, including the Carnedds to the north, it runs from Bethesda to Llyn Ogwen. On the south side are Elydir Fawr and Y Garn. The country is bare and treeless on the whole but there is a feel of the hills that creates an unmistakable atmosphere, which is hardly found anywhere else in Wales.

Mawddach. A river rising in the north of Merioneth, south of the reservoir at Trawsfynydd. It flows south to Llaneltyd, near Dolgelley, then west, widening into the famous estuary with Barmouth at the mouth. The view up the estuary from Barmouth, or from the centre of the Railway Bridge, is one of superlative beauty. On the upper reaches of the river, near Tyn-y-Groes, are the Falls of Rhaiadr Du, Pystyll-y-Caen and Rhaiadr-y-Mawddach. Also in the vicinity are the workings, now disused, of a famous Welsh gold mine.

Menai Straits. The narrow channel running NE.-SW., separating Anglesey from Caernarvonshire. It is crossed by two bridges, the tubular railway bridge, and the famous suspension road bridge, both near the Bangor end of the straits.

Nantlle Hills. A range of hills to the west of Beddgelert. They flank the valley of the river Dwyfawr, which flows into the sea near Criccieth, and to the north they look down into the valley in which lies the little village of Nantlle, from which they take their name. To the east of the Dwyfawr are Moel Hebog (2566) and Moel Lefain (2087). To the west the ridge runs along the tops of Craig Goch (1986), Carnedd Goch (2301), a point (2408) above Llyn Cwm Silin, a point (2329) and Y Garn (2080). To the north, across the valley of Nantlle, is Mynydd Mawr (2290).

As can be seen from the fact that some of the hills have not got names—or, at least, no two climbers agree about this—the hills are not so well known

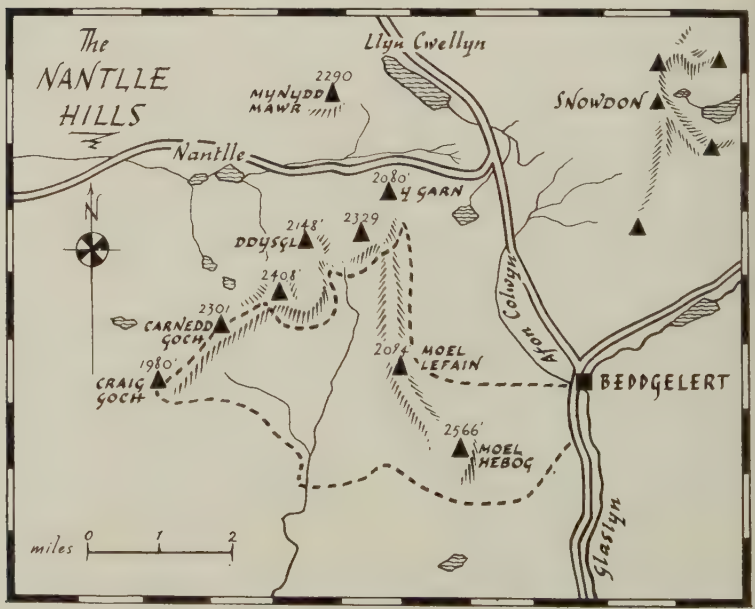
as they deserve to be. For all of them are worth climbing, and a very good day can be had by crossing from Beddgelert into the Dwyfawr valley at Llanfihangel, turning up Cwm Ciprwth, and ascending along the crests to Y Garn and so back to Beddgelert.

Penmaenmawr. The big bulky headland which rises 1500 feet above the sea, some 3 miles W. of Conway. At its foot nestles the resort of Penmaenmawr, and closing the bay at the west end is the little head of Penmaenbach.

Pitt's Head. A rock feature on the right of the road from Caernarvon to Beddgelert, about 2 miles E. of Llyn Cwellyn. The rock is carved by Nature into the likeness of a human profile, by tradition close to that of our famous statesman. Pitt's head is the start of a popular route up Snowdon.

Porth Neigwl. The great bay—'Hell's Mouth'—which stretches for 4 miles on the south coast of the Lleyn peninsula, near Llanengan. It has a good sandy shore, but is notoriously dangerous to shipping because of its treacherous currents.

Rhinogs. Rhinog Fach (2333) and Rhinog Fawr (2362) are adjacent peaks in the mountains of Harlech. There is a fine, hard-going ridge walk along the crests, starting from about half-way up the Roman Steps and



ascending the ridge of Rhinog Fawr then down into the Bwlch Drws Ardudwy and up Rhinog Fach.

Rhobell Fawr. A mountain (2408) lying between Aran Mawddy on the road from Bala to Dolgelley, and the headwaters of the Mawddach. It is usually included in a long tramp over the Arenig group.

Rivals. Yr Eifl, the triple peaked hill north of Nevin, and called in English 'the Rivals,' is not very interesting climbing. The highest point is 1849 feet high, but the seaward side of the mountain is much quarried. On the eastern peak there is Tre'r Ceiri, an ancient British camp, with ruined walls and circular cells.

Sarn Badrig. Popularly called St. Patrick's Causeway, Sarn Badrig is a long rocky reef running some 14 miles out to sea, on the Harlech coast of Cardigan Bay. Tradition has it that the Bay was once a fertile kingdom, protected from the sea by dykes, of which this was one. But one day a maiden, being curious, pried into a holy well and forgot to put the cover back on. The waters poured out and never stopped till the whole kingdom was submerged.

Sarn Helen. South of Trawsfynydd and within easy reach of Ffestiniog, Sarn Helen is the remains of one of the great Roman roads through Wales.

Tal-Y-Llyn. You will not find a more beautiful lake than this south of Loch Maree in Scotland. It lies open and bare under the great slopes of Cader Idris, rising to the north. The road from Dolgelley to Towyn runs along the southern shore, and at the south-west end of the lake there is the small village of Tal-y-Llyn, which actually means 'the end of the lake.' There is nothing lush or gentle about Tal-y-Llyn, and words are a superfluity. People who like prettiness in Nature will see nothing of interest here, but for all that this is a scene of undaunted beauty.

WATERFALLS

Aber Falls. Two falls, one of them 120 feet high, about 2 miles upstream from Llanfairfechan. Attractive, and about the most imposing in the district.

Pistyll Rhaiadr. A high fall on the stream that flows into the Tanat near Llanrhaiadr, in the Berwyn range. The Fall is on the slope of Moel Sych, and is perhaps best reached from Llanrhaiadr, but can easily be visited from Llandrillo on the Bala side. It is 200 feet high.

Rhaiadr Dhu. A goodish fall on the Afon Cwm Prysor, which flows into the vale of Ffestiniog, south of Maentwrog. The Rhaiadr is about a mile upstream from the road.

Rhaiadr-y-Mawddach. There are two falls on the upper Mawddach, near each other. Pistyll-y-Caen tumbles down a rock about 150 feet high, making a pretty splash, while Rhaiadr-y-Mawddach, to the east, is only a third of that height, and hardly worth troubling about. They are both some 3 miles N. of the Inn at Tyn-y-Groes.

Swallow and Conway Falls. *See* BETTWS.

Cynicht from the South-west.

SNOWDONIA

SNOWDONIA, the old Welsh Eryri, or ' Place of the Eagles,' is the vast area of mountain and river, pass and lake, roughly enclosed in the quadrant of Bethesda-Capel Curig—Beddgelert—Llanberis. It is bounded on the north by Nant Ffrancon, and on the west by the Caernarvon–Beddgelert road, on the east by Nant Gwynant. It includes the lakes of Peris, Ogwen, Mymbwr, Gwynant, Ddinas and Llydaw, as well as many smaller tarns, fed by the rivers Llugwy, Glaslyn and Colwyn, and the peaks of Y Wyddfa (3560), Carnedd Ugain (3492), Crib Goch (3023), Lliwedd (2947) and Yr Aran (2541), all these being included in the general name of Snowdon. On the north of Nant Ffrancon are Carnedd Llewellyn (3484) and Carnedd Dafydd (3426), while on the south of the same pass, and bordering Llyn Ogwen are Tryfan (3010), Glyder Fawr (3279) and Glyder Fach (3263), Y Garn (3104) and Elidyr (3029). Finally, to the SE. of Beddgelert are Cynicht (2263) and Moelwyn (2527).

2. Snowdonia was the ancient stronghold of the Welsh, a sort of inner retreat into which they retired when attacked, and from whose fastnesses they salled out to wreak vengeance upon the English armies. In much the same way as Hitler planned a last stand in the Austrian mountains, the Welsh Princes time and again held out in the peaks of Eryri. The stronghold was strongly guarded. If you look at a map you will see that all the approaches to Eryri are barred by great castles blocking the passes; by Deganwy Castle across the river from Conway; by Dolbadarn on the neck between Llyn Padarn and Peris; and by Dolwyddelan on the road from Bettws. It was no easy feat in those days to force a passage into Snowdonia.

3. But now times are changed, and 'foreign' visitors are welcomed into the former stronghold. There they will find excellent roads for motorists, good hotels and inns in all the villages, and a wealth of splendour and rugged majesty of mountain and pass, enticing the walker and climber, angler and sportsman, hiker and tourist.

4. Everyone, probably, has their own Snowdonia. To the sportsman it may mean a crisp winter evening on one of the lakes, after duck, or a summer afternoon stalking trout. To the climber it means the feel of firm rock on one of the buttresses of Tryfan, the final pull to the great, boulder-washed summit, and the leap from 'Adam' to 'Eve,' the giant rocks crowning the hill, in celebration of victory. Perhaps it is the thrill of the towering cliff of Lliwedd above the 'Slanting Gully,' the finest height of sheer rock-face in these islands, or, for the very few, the last, toughest, nerve-straining pitch of Twll Ddu, the 'Devil's Kitchen,' above the waterfall. Or maybe it is a sudden break through the dull heavy mist of the valleys into brilliant clear sunshine, with half the peaks of Wales floating above the flat cloudtops; or the memory of an evening round the fire in Ogwen or Pen-y-Pass.

5. For walker, cyclist, or motorist, Snowdonia offers each its unique enchantment, something found nowhere else. It is a land of bare, barren moorland and rocky peaks. In the valleys of the Glaslyn, and round Beddgelert, there are pleasant copses, and the two national park areas of Beddgelert and Gwydir forest are fresh with young pine and spruce, but the land for the most part is treeless. Its beauty consists in its clean cut outline, its dark, crag-ringed lakes, its vast sweeping distances of hills. It makes ideal walking or motoring country.

6. Let us start in the north. The centre farthest to the north and yet convenient for both hiker and holidaymaker is **BETHESDA,** on the Bangor–Capel Curig road. The town lies at the north end of the Nant Ffrancon, a bare, winding pass of great beauty. Bethesda itself is a rather unattractive little town, dominated by the grim slate quarries on the hillside opposite, but it makes a convenient centre for the two Carnedds, Llewellyn and Dafydd, the next highest hills to Snowdon. Carnedd Dafydd, (3426) can easily be ascended by way of the NNW. ridge, which the climber can attain by way of Cwm Llafar; the ridge runs straight and without difficulty to the summit. An alternative route is by the Braich Ddu ridge. This comes out on the saddle between Pen-

Cynicht from the South-west.

y-Oleu-Wen and the summit. The easiest approach to the ridge is by the track at Ty Gwyn. Carnedd Llewellyn (3484) can also be ascended from Bethesda. The route is first by Cwm Caseg and then by Foel Grach.

Bethesda is a good motoring centre, convenient for a trip through Nant Ffrancon and by Llyn Ogwen to Capel Curig, or, if petrol allows, one can continue down the Llanberis road and back by Bangor, something under 70 miles of the finest scenery in Britain.

Summit rocks, Tryfan, 3,020 *feet.*

7. A more convenient centre for the climber and walker is at **OGWEN,** where there is a Youth Hostel at the Nant Ffrancon end of the famous lake. Here there is God's Plenty of hills and peak. One of the first things to do on arriving at the hostel is to climb up the stream past the shoulder of Tryfan into the magnificent Cwm Idwal, the finest of all Welsh Cwms. You are in a vast amphitheatre of cliff and ridge. Tryfan cuts out the view on the left hand. Beyond it, to the right of the Nameless Cwm, the sloping smoothness of the Idwal Slabs, a kindergarten for climbers—yet not for the completely uninitiated —mounts up to the base of the difficult Cherry Tree Wall. Farther round, the Gribin Ridge thrusts out, with the Glyders behind, while beyond the lake the chasm of the Devil's Kitchen, Twll Ddu, snakes deeply up the rock face. Y Garn ends the great circle of hills.

TRYFAN (3010), however one approaches it, is a noble peak, and has a wider range of climbs, from easy to severe, than most hills. Just about 10 minutes down the lakeside from the Hostel there is the Milestone Buttress, a leaping face of splintered rock with a whole handful of different climbs, again only for the initiate. But there are several easy ways up the mountain. The easiest is by the South Ridge, or by a combination of Heather Terrace and South Ridge. The Heather Terrace is best reached from the Capel Curig side of the hill. Just beyond the farm of Gwern there is a sharp hillock called Little Tryfan—it makes a good scrambling ground for beginnners—and beyond this the heather terrace is visible as a track high up the hillside, running its entire length just below the great rock buttresses. It can be reached by a path rising from beyond Little Tryfan. By following the Terrace round to the left one eventually comes out on top of the South ridge, and the way to the summit is open.

Another interesting climb from Ogwen is of Glyder Fawr by way of the Nameless Cwm. Climb up to Llyn Idwal, and keep round the left of the lake till you come to the stream, on the near side of the Idwal Slabs. A stiffish climb up the stream brings you over the lip into the Nameless Cwm, and from here the ridge can be reached by a scramble to the right, and on to Glyder Fawr itself. One can descend by the same route, but make sure of your descent before you start climbing.

8. Continuing along the lakeside, and the road beyond, one at length reaches **Capel Curig.** This is quite a convenient centre for ascents of Snowdon, which I shall treat under the heading of Pen-y-Pass. Capel Curig is a good spot for a climb on **Moel Siabod** (2860), to the south-east of the village. Walk down the Capel Curig–Bettws-y-Coed road as far as Pont Gyfyng. Here a track, once used in mining, climbs up 1000 feet to a spine of rock that eventually joins the mile-long summit ridge. The going is rough but safe. Moel Siabod can also be ascended from Dolwyddelan, by way of Llyn-y-Foel. About 5 miles past Capel Curig, on the road past Llynau Mymbwr, is Pen-y-Gwryd, with its famous Inn, with its tradition of hospitality to climbers going back over a century. Ahead, Snowdon looms up magnificently.

Overleaf: Snowdon and Crib Goch.

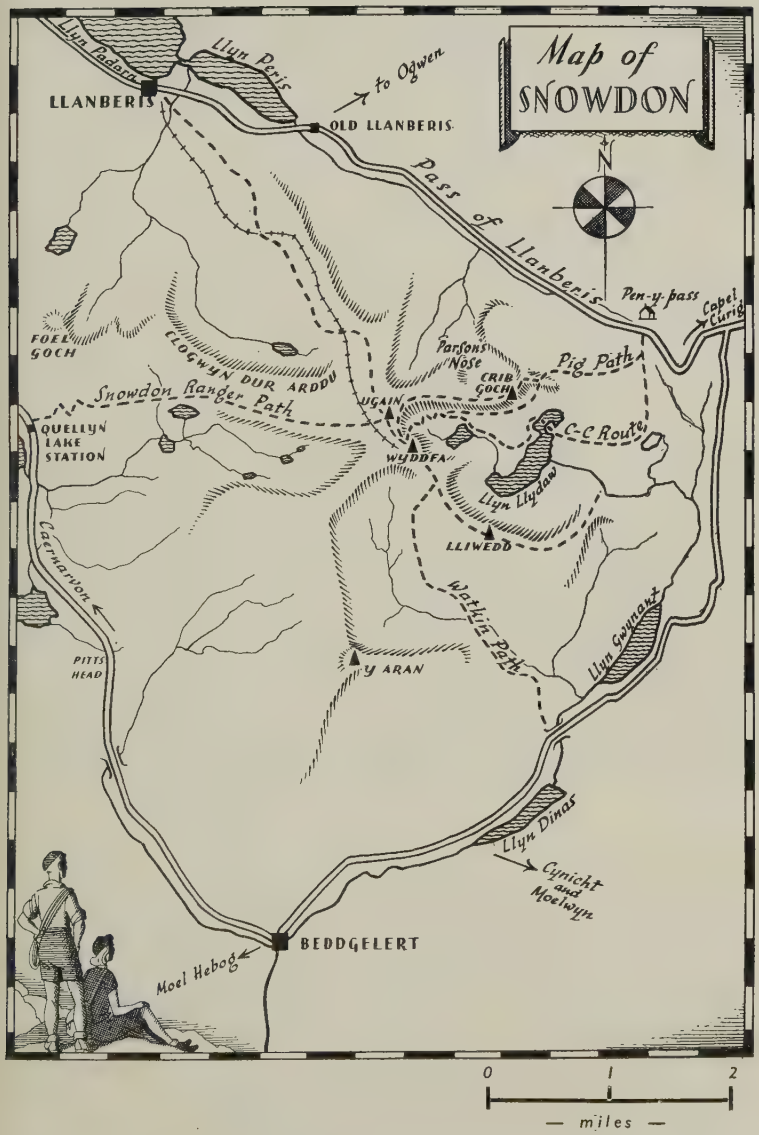
9. **SNOWDON** is the name given to a range of hills culminating in the central peak of Y Wyddfa (3560). The name means 'the Tomb.' Half a mile to the north, the peak of Carnedd Ugain is less then 200 feet lower. From the two peaks ridges radiate out to all of the compass point. To the south-east of Y Wyddfa sweeps the great arc of Lliwedd (2947). To the south a ridge ends in Yr Aran (2541). East from Ugain lies the knife edge, and the pinnacles of Crib Goch—the Red Crest—(3023). To the north-west a ridge sweeps down to Llanberis, while farther to the west the terrifying face of Clogwynn d'yr Arddu ends in Foel Goch. The most imposing view of Snowdon, however, is from the Nant Gwynant side, looking into the famous 'horseshoe' made by the encircling arms of Lliwedd and Crib Goch.

10. A short distance up from Pen-y-Gwryd, on the Llanberis road, is **Pen-y-Pass,** an inn by the roadside, and a convenient start point for three ascents of the mountain. The **Capel Curig route** starts here, and goes south towards little Llyn Teryn. From here the track cuts across the rough ground to strike Llyn Llydaw at the narrow part of its neck. Here there is a causeway running across the lake. The track then follows the shore of Llydaw as far as the stream of the Glaslyn, then follows the Glaslyn past the old copper works to the little lake—here Snowdon towers up superbly—which it circles for a short time till it eventually veers off to the right up the slope of Crib-y-Ddisgl, joins the Pig Path, and zigzags to the col under the summit of Y Wyddfa.

An alternative route is by the **Pig Path**—why so called nobody seems to know—which also starts from Pen-y-Pass. It keeps over to the right, and climbs up the ridge that juts off from Crib Goch, crossing it by the Pig Pass, Bwlch Moch, 500 feet above Llyn Llydaw. From here it follows the curve of Crib-y-Ddisgl, and into the zigzags up the face. The views of Y Wyddfa from the Pig Path are superb. From Pen-y-Pass there starts the most famous of all Welsh hill-walks, the **Snowdon Horseshoe,** called 'the finest ridge walk in Europe.' The route is by the Pig Path to Bwlch Moch, then up some stiffish screes to the Crib Goch ridge. From here one can walk either along the narrow top or, for safety, just below on the south side. The Crazy Pinnacle should be avoided by all non-climbers. Thence the route winds up the ridge of Crib-y-Ddisgl and Carnedd Ugain, and round to the summit of Y Wyddfa itself, with the hotel on top.

From the summit, follow the South Ridge for about 200 yards and then bear left into the col, and so along the path just below the summit ridge of Lliwedd, which has three peaks. When the last of these is about half a mile behind, cut down to Llyn Llydaw, and so home—after about 6 hours walking—to Pen-y-Pass. This is not a route for the inexperienced, should not be done alone, and, if there is any doubt at all about the strength of any of the party, it is safer to rope up along the Crib Goch ridge.

11. The next centre for Snowdon is **Llanberis.** From here, though the view is spoiled by the slate quarries in the foreground, there is a spectacle of much grandeur. The route up


Map of SNOWDON
N
Llyn Padarn
Llyn Peris
LLANBERIS
to Ogwen
OLD LLANBERIS
Pass of Llanberis
Pen-y-pass
Capel Curig
FOEL GOCH
LLOGWYN DUR ARDDU
Parsons Nose
CRIB GOCH
Pig Path
Snowdon Ranger Path
UGAIN
C.C. Route
QUELLYN LAKE STATION
WYDDFA
Llyn Llydaw
LLIWEDD
Caernarvon
Watkin's Path
PITTS HEAD
Y ARAN
Llyn Gwynant
Llyn Dinas
Cynicht and Moelwyn
BEDDGELERT
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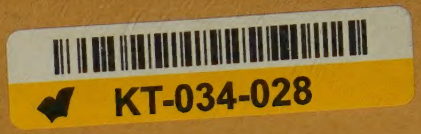
Lliwedd.

Snowdon follows fairly closely beside the railway, running 5 miles up to the summit. From Llanberis, too, there are many other good walks, etiher up the Pass, or over to Ogwen by the Twll Ddu route—which does not involve descending Twll Ddu itself.

12. **BEDDGELERT** is perhaps the pleasantest spot in Snowdonia for a holiday. It lies at the junction of the rivers Glaslyn and Colwyn, and not far from the famous Pass of Aberglaslyn. It is convenient for an ascent of Snowdon, either by the Ranger Path or the Pitt's Head route, both of which will be fully described in

any climbing guide. But perhaps the most interesting Snowdon ascent from Beddgelert is by the **Watkin Path.** Take the road up Nant Gwynant, and turn up the track to the left just before the bridge, less than a mile beyond Llyn Ddinas. When the road reaches the chalet, bear left to the Afon Arlain, and follow the south bank as far as Cwm-y-Llan house. Cross the stream here, and the track follows round the north of Cwm-y-Llan, till it finally bears right under the north side of Lliwedd and ascends the scree to the col between Lliwedd and Y Wyddfa.

Beddgelert is also a good centre from which to attack Cynicht and Moelwyn, the two big hills to the south-east. A pretty route up Cynicht (2265), is made by following the Glaslyn to Llyn Ddinas, keeping to the south of the river. About midway along the lake the path veers off to the right, and eventually crosses the lane up Nant Mor. From here there is a fair path to Llyn Llagi. The immediate route ahead looks difficult, but when you reach the lake take the dip to the left, and in a quarter mile swing round again to the right to Llyn-y-Adar. Do not follow the stream between the two lakes. From beyond Llyn-y-Adar one can get on to the ridge of Cynicht, abandoning the track that leads down to the Croesor quarries. From the summit there is a lovely view over all the low ground around Tremadoc. Just to the south-east of Cynicht is Moelwyn (2527). Possibly the best ascent is from Tan-y-Bwlch, but it can be climbed from Beddgelert after a good stretch of walking. Take the Aberglaslyn road from Beddgelert, and just beyond Pont Aberglaslyn take the track to the left—the old road from Beddgelert to Tan-y-Bwlch. It peters out in places, but keep going, and soon it crosses the line from the Croesor Quarries. About half a mile beyond this—Point 851 on the Ordnance Survey—a track goes off on the left, and climbs into Bwlch Trwstyllon Climb up the stiffish ridge that comes down on the left, and the summit comes into view.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